THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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Per Annum in Advance.
TOWN.....11-8
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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 5TH MAY.

WE GIVE from the *Indian Daily News* the following telegrams shewing the effects of the fall of the Oriental Bank in different parts of Asia :

Bombay, May 4th, 13h. 8m.—Notwithstanding repeated warnings of the possible approaching downfa' of the Oriental Bank, Reuters announcement of the final disruption was received with something like consternation in Bombay. Business was almost entirely suspended yesterday, the all-absorbing topic of conversation both in commercial and social circles being the failure of a Bank which had withstood the unprecedented shock of the share mania whi e others had tottered and fallen.

So far as Bombay is concerned, no alarm need be felt as to the effect of the stoppage here. The Bank had almost entire y lost credit, and practically no business had been done for some months past. The up-country depositors are very numerous, and amounts deposited heavy, and it is there that the blow will be felt in all its severity. Un ike that of the City of Glasgow Bank, the failure will not involve any local firms in the disaster. Of course, the principal sufferers will be the shareholders, who are more numerous in Bombay than in any other city in India. The shareholders are not only liable for the amount of their shares, but for £25 in addition. Shareholders who have sold out within the last two ve months are also liable; so that the depositors have a fair chance of recovering the amount of their deposits.

Amongst the shareholders, the Parsees will be the principal losers. There are also several Portuguese shareho'ders, who will suffer heavi y. Among the Europeans although the loss will be serious, it will not, in a comparative sense, be very heavy, Military officers being those most affected.

The shareholders were most anxious to sell out, and at the time of the failure there were 900 shares on the market in Bombay, but no purchasers.

Seeing the large connection which the Bank necessarily possesses, the general impression here is that the Bank may possibly be reconstructed on a more so id and permanent basis.

Madras, May 4th, 18h 48m.—The general effect of the closing of the Oriental Bank will not be very serious. About ten lakhs are deposited here, business having been reduced during the last year or two, most of the shareholders here are men in good position.

The failure of Sabapathy Chetty last month was the cause of the loss of a lakh and half to the Bank. It is said an attempt is already being made to re-open or re-establish the Bank.

Ceylon, May 4th 12h 35m.— The stoppage of the Oriental Bank was announced by a notice affixed to the Bank doors. The news spread like lightning and caused great excitement.

Crowds of natives gathered round the Bank premises. It is impossible yet to say what the effect of the stoppage will be on Ceylon, but it is undoubtedly a great calamity, and will involve the ruin of several commercial houses in Colombo.

It is feared that the effect up-country will be most disastrous, as a large number of estates are dependent entirely on the Bank. Many cases of great hardship are known. The failure affects all classes, there being a great number of the Bank's notes in circulation.

Speculators are buying the notes at nominal prices.

It is possible the Government will accept the notes, otherwise great distress is feared amongst the natives, whose savings are mainly represented by Oriental Bank notes. The collapse of the Bank has created a profound sensation throughout the Colony, and business was completely paralysed yesterday.

Bombay May, 4th 19h. 10m.—Indian shareholders of the Oriental Bank are :—William Alexander, Calcutta, Dr Allen, Sehore, Central India ; Robert Aris, Quarter-master 2nd Regiment, care of Oriental Bank, Calcutta ; Captain William Ironside Bax, 11th Bengal Lancers, Nowshera ; Lieutenant-Colonel Charles A len Bayley, Kotah, Rajpootana ; John Henry Blakeman, Bombay ; Messrs. Reddy Branson and W. H. Branson, Madras ; Lieutenant General Brooke, care of the Oriental Bank, Bombay William Sarin Brooke, Hoshangabad; Major Burgess, Bombay Arsenal ; Edward William Burgett, Calcutta ; Lieutenant-Colonel Coine, R. A., Madras ; James Henry Cartwright, Calcutta ; Charles Edward Caudle, Sibsagar, Assam ; the Right Reverend Joseph A. Chevalier, Bangalore ; the Right Reverend Dr. Conoz, Madras ; Surgeon-General Cornish, Ootacamund ; James Handyside Cornwall, Karachi ; Edward Dangerfield, care of the Bombay Branch ; Laurent De Geiis and others, Madras, Phillip Lawrence De Lomos and other, Bombay, Brothers Antonio de Sa, Bombay ; Luis Philip de Rozario, Bombay ; and Mrs. Mariana de Rosario, Bombay ; Archibald John Sholto Dohglas, Calcutta ; Dwarka Nath Dutt, Calcutta ; the Right Reverend Dr. S. Fennelly, Madras ; Manoel Francisco Fernandiez, Bombay ; Lieutenant-Colonel Fisher, Quetta ; James Liston Garthwaite, Madras ; Charles Scott Halford, Ca cutta; Captain Hector, P. and O. Company ; Lieutenant-Colonel Hunter, Peshawur ; J. D. Inverarity, Bombay ; Miss Jopp, Bombay ; Lieutenant-Colonel Keays, Mhow ; Harold Robertson King, Bombay ; Lucas Blacker Burnet King, Dingapore ; Henry Kirke, Ca cutta; Walter Laidlaw, Nandora ; the Right Reverend Dr. Laournau, Pondicherry ; Willams Daniel Latimer, deceased, Calcutta ; Major Lavie R. A., Secunderabad ; Charles Allen Lawson, Madras Mail ; J. A. P. Macintosh, Bombay ; Lieutenant-Colonel Massy, Bombay ; John Miller, deceased, Madras ; Muncherjee Merwanjee Mehta, Calcutta ; Joseph McNeill, Calcutta ; Dr. Alexander Neil, deceased; Lahore ; Gustav Oppert, Madras ; Dr. O'Sullivan, Bhosawal ; Henry James Paroson, Bombay ; Surgeon-Major Pinkerton, Bombay ; David Polson, G. I. P. Railway, Bombay ; Lieutenant, Colonel Prideaux, Calcutta ; Rev. J. J. Priestley, Kolhapore ; Colonel Rideout, Madras ; William Cotton Rhode, Ootacamund ; Lieutenant-Colonel Scott, Bombay ; Mrs. Sequeira, Goa ; Horatio Hale Shephard, Madras ; Sarens Nixon Smellie, Calcutta; Frederick Yorke Smith, Bombay; Robinson Souttar, Calcutta ; Charles Sowden, Madras ; Lieutenant-Colonel Steward, Trichinopoly ; John Strip, Karachi ; Lieutenant-Colonel Steuart, Jubbulpore ; John Thomas, Byculla Schools Bombay ; Robert Lowthian Trivithick, Lanowlie ; Lieutenant Wapshare, Baroda ; Alfred Rudyerd Ward, Ajmere. This list gives the names of the European shareholders in India including those of Bengal but not the Bombay native shareholders.

TUESDAY, 6TH MAY.

IT IS STATED that Mr. Govind Rao Sathe of Sholapore, having resigned an appointment he held in the Postal Department, is going to America to study the nautical science and also to see how far the commercial relations between India and America can be improved. A good move.

THE VICEROY will hold a *levee* at Peterhoff, Simla, on Saturday, the 24th May, being Her Majesty's birth-day.

THE QUEEN has desired Sir Theodore Martin to write an article on the Prince Consort in the forthcoming Dictionary of National Biography.

THE EIGHTEENTH report on the Moral and Material Progress of India just submitted to Parliament for its information, has been written by Mr. Lionel Tennyson, the second son of the Poet Laureate.

IT IS stated that among the Indian exhibits at the approaching Health Exhibition in London will be one by an Indian tea syndicate, representing a miniature tea-garden, and exemplifying the cultivation and manufacture of tea in all its usages.

MAJOR TUCKER, we learn from the *Bombay Guardian*, has given up his shoes and now walks barefooted. What next and next ?

THE BENGALI has the following :

"On Wednesday, the 16th u'timo, a number of students, belonging to the London Mission Institution, were amusing themselves in a garden in front of the school. The garden appertains to the state of the late Babu Mati Lal Seal and is now in possession of one Mr. Meek, on behalf of the Receiver of the Estate. It is for all practical purposes a public place, for crowds of people come every day to see the fish swimming in the tanks in that garden, and there is also a fine little house rising from the middle of one of the tanks, which is really a very pleasant sight. Well, on the day in question, the students went to the garden, probably with a view to enjoy the spectacle. But Mr. Meek who happened to arrive there on the occasion, would not permit them to stay in the garden, and he demanded their names. The boys, refusing to give them were told to walk off, leaving their books in the place. They obeyed but shortly after they demanded that their books should be returned. The demand was several times repeated, but Mr. Meek would not listen to it; and on this they began to pelt brick bats and clods of earth at him. The matter was reported to the Police, and when the Police Inspector came up to the spot, the boys had left the garden. Mr. Meek, then along with the Inspector went to the Institution and was able to identify one student only, named Tomiruddin, of the second class. The boy was at once arrested and placed upon his trial the next day before Mr. Pergittar of the Suburban Police Court. A number of witnesses was examined on the side of the prosecution, and though the Magistrate had doubts in his own mind as to the nature of the offence, he drew up a charge under section 147 of the Indian Penal Code for rioting, against the defendant. The case will be heard again on the 6th instant."

The famous Moti Jhil of the late Babu Motilal Seal in Bhowanipore was a place of public resort. Surely Babus Govindlal Seal and Kanyelal Seal, his worthy representatives, will not allow the liberal intentions of their renowned father to be baulked in this rude manner. As the case is *sub judice* we will not anticipate judgment.

WEDNESDAY, 7TH MAY.

WE GIVE a prominent insertion to the following :

A meeting of Indian gentlemen, resident in London, was held on April 3, to exppress their sympathy with their Sovereign in her great bereavement. About fifty Indian gentlemen of all creeds—Persis, Bengalis, and Mahomedans—were present. Mr. Lalmohun Ghose took the chair; and Mr. J. J. Gazdar, Barrister, in an effective speech, proposed the following resolutions :—" The members of the Indian community resident in London, beg most respectfully to approach Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress with the expression of their deep sympathy in the bereavement which HerMajesty has suffered by the sudden and unexpected death of His Royal Highness Prince Leopold George Duncan Albert, Duke of Albany, and of the profound grief they share, in common with Her Majesty's subjects at the sad termination of so hopeful and beneficent a career.' The members of the Indian community, resident in London, beg to convey to Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany the respectful expression of their sympathy and condolence on the occasion of the sad bereavement Her Royal Highness has sustained by the death of Her illustrious consort, Prince Leopold George Duncan Albert, Duke of Albany, whose sudden and unexpected end they mourn in common with all the subjects of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India."

IN A LETTER to the *Times* Mr. Wilfrid Blunt suggests the adoption of the following programme in Egypt :

1. Egypt to be declared a neutral and inviolable State, under the united protection of the great Powers of Europe.

2. The guarantee of the powers shall not be given to the Prince as against his subjects nor as against attacks from predatory tribes, but only as against the aggression of States recognized by international law.

3. The rights secured to Eu ropean subjects by the capitu lations shall be modified to such a point as shall be compatible with the free government of the country by its Native rulers.

4. The Law of Liquidation shall be modified to such a point, as shall be compatible with the country's material prosperity.

5. In case of a rupture of amicable relations between Egypt and any one of the Powers, or any other State, the matter shall be referred to the protecting Powers collectively, who, in an extreme instance, shall be able to give authority of action for the given purpose to one of their own number.

6. No European officer in the service of the protecting Powers shall be allowed to take or retain service in any capacity, military or civil, under the Egyptian Government.

7. The Suez Canal shall be internationalized —that is to say, the sovereignty of the isthmus shall be declared vested in the protecting powers. Who shall provide for its land defence wherever necessary, but shall not retain on it any permanent garrison. The Canal Company alone shall be charged with the necessary Police regu ations. Both the Porte and the Government of Egypt shall be indemnified in money for the loss of their sovereign rights in the isthmus, Egypt's indemnity being affected to liquidation of her debt.

8. The Egyptians shall be invited to declare their own form of Government, and choose their own rulers. They shall be freed from all fiscal or customs, or other commercial obligations to the Porte.

9. As a preliminary to the election of a new ruler, the present Khedive shall be invited by the Powers to abdicate the administrative power being temporarily vested in a National Council, such in fact, as exercised supreme authority during the late war.

10. All decrees of exile, confiscation, or political disabilities shall be at once reversed.

11. The British troops shall be withdrawn from the rest of Egypt to Alexandra, which they shall continue to occupy until the new arrangement shall be complete, but from which also they shall then retire.

12. It is suggested that in view of retaining some guarantee for the payment of interest on the remaining public debt, the customs of Egypt shall be affected to the bondholders in lieu of all existing guarantees and managed in their interests. The protecting Powers shall retain the right in case of difficulty of garrisoning the sea ports to the extent of securing this privilege to the bondholders.

SIR CHARLES TURNER, Chief Justice of Madras in presiding at a Madras Institution, thus dwelt on the cause of Mohamedan advancement in Madras :

It is owing to the unfortunate neglect of the educational facilities provided that in the Presidency of Madras, with nearly two millions of Mahomedans, so few are found in the higher grades of the public service. As a member of the High Court it has been to me a source of great regret, that I have not found myself as I was in upper India, associated with a large number of highly educated Mahomedan gentlemen among the judiciary. There, as here, there were difficulties to be overcome by Mahomedans, and they overcame them. The official language of the Courts in the early part of the century was more or less Persian; but Hindustani, the colloqnial language of India Mahomedans supplanted. With the institution of the High Court, a great change took place, the language of the Court was English, English was required as a qualification for admission to High Court Pleaderships, and thus indirectly for Munsiffship. The Native Pleaders who had enjoyed the largest business in the High Court, and among them were several Syuds and Moulvis, found themselves handicapped in obtaining retainers, and although the Judges allowed any Native Pleader to adress the court through an interpreter, and in time even the Barrister-Judges were able to follow clear speakers and close reasoners, it was difficult to persuade clients that their cases would be equally well-handled by advocates who could address the Court only in Hindustani, and as a consequence only the leading Pleaders retained their practice. For the others, although they had been obliged to study law in Urdu, employment was found in the Courts, and Syuds and Moulvis were amongst our most able and highly trusted Judges. But even into the Subordinate Courts English was gradually introduced; our educated Mahomedan gentlemen foresaw the future, and provided for it. They educated their sons in English, and not a few of those who could afford it sent their sons to England for education. What has been the result? Syud Mahomed, the son of Syud Ahmed Khan, is now officiating as a Judge of the High Court, N. W. P. and will, no doubt, be confirmed in his appointment when an opportunity offers. I happen to know that our Finance Minister, Sir Auckland Colvin, had formed so high an opinion of Syud Hamid, another son of Syud Ahmed, that he entertained the idea of inviting him to take employment in Egypt. In London, two years ago, I had the pleasure of meeting the eldest son of Moulvi Karder Hossein at one time one of the two leading advocates in the High court, and the sons or nephews of two Subordinate Judges, Syud Faridudin and Moulvi Samiula Khan. Looking to the list of public officers engaged in the collection of the revenue you will find that Mahomedans enjoy their full share of public offices. They have at least exhibited the great characteristic of their ancestors, energy, and independence. I am aware that owing to the requirements of a knowledge of English, the number of Mahomedan Pleaders of the High Court, and consequently of the Munsiffs, has somewhat diminished; but I am confident that my Mahomedan friends in the North West will not allow themselves to fall behind in the race of life.

We are glad to say that our Mahomedan countrymen are coming to the front in Bengal.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN has expressed her intention to subscribe 100*l.* towards the fund for establishing a home for freed female slaves at Cairo. Mr. Gladstone and Earl Granville have each contributed 20*l.*

THE TIMES' CORRESPONDENT at Cairo declares that there is only one man, who is properly qualified

to check administrative anarchy in Egypt, so far as the social condition of the people is concerned. "It is hardly necessary," he continues, "to say that I refer to Mr. Justice Scott, of the High Court of Bombay. In securing his services no monetary considerations should be allowed to stand in the way. Aided by a competent staff of English magistrates, he could in six months effect the reform which is the real basis of all others." We are glad to observe that Mr Justice Scott is held in such high estimation in Egypt.

IT HAS BEEN decided in the Bombay High Court that the Thakore of Limree, being a ruling prince, is exempted from the jurisdiction of the British civil courts.

THURSDAY, 8TH MAY.

IT IS PROPOSED we hear to open a steam boat communication between Calcutta and Gobordanga *via* Taki, Busseerhat and Chandooria. If the project, succeed it will compete successfully with the Railway in goods traffic.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the following from the Press Commissioner's office: "Quarantine arrivals at the Ports in Spain announced."

THE VITAL STATISTICS of Calcutta for the month of March last give 758 births against 630 in February. This number exceeds the decennial mean by 195 and the number of the corresponding month of the previous year by 120. The deaths registered in the same month were 1460 against 972 in the preceding month, giving an annual ratio of 40·4 against 26·8 per 1000 of population. This monthly total exceeds all the corresponding figures of the past decade excepting 1878, and also exceeds the decennial meanly 318. There were 486 deaths from cholera against 43 in the preceding month. This number exceeds all the corresponding figures of the last decade excepting 1875, 1878, and 1879, and also exceeds the mean of the decade by 13. The deaths from fevers amounted to 308 against 269 in the preceding month. There were 115 deaths from bowel complaints against 110 in the preceding month. The mortality from other causes amounted to 458 against 415 in February.

THE FOLLOWING telegram from London is cheering enough:

London May 5.—All Indian debentures offered by the Secretary of State to be renewed, out of eight millions due in August next, namely two millions for five years and three millions for seven years at 3½ per cent. have been applied for.

A BILL has been introduced into the New York Senate, at the suggestion of the New York Chamber of Commerce, providing for the suspension of the coinage of the standard silver dollar for two years, and the issue instead of one, two dollar Treasury notes.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to a Madras paper as follows:—"A collector on leave in England, in writing to his acting *locum tenens*, informs him of the fact that, at the India Office, he hears Mr. McIver is all fury and rage at the disclosures of his demi-official correspondence on the Salem affair. Nay, he is all the more furious at the barristers, who attempted to report his conduct to the Inns of Court. Now he is at an enigma either to resign the service or face his once friends, whom he so successfully deceived to think that he is one of the very best friends of India and India's children However, he thinks that if he once faces all these and resumes his work, he will, in the long run, be on the bench of the High Court." Could not Mr. McIver be hauled up before the High Court in some way or other?

WE TAKE the following telegrams from the *Englishman*:

Bombay May 6.—A special telegram to the *Times of India* from London on Monday says that the *Times* states it is expected the creditors of the Oriental Bank Corporation will receive seventeen and sixpence in the pound. The payment of this amount will absorb the capital and reserve liability. Other Banks declined to give any help last week. A new company has been projected with a capital of two millions sterling. It is proposed to economise and liquidate. Mr. Welton (query Wilson) of Quilter's, has been appointed liquidator. The exchange banks are unaffected by the failure of the Oriental.

THE OFFICIAL summary of the reports of the weather and crops in Bengal for the week ended the 30th of April says:—"More or less rain fell over almost all districts, benefiting standing crops and agricultural operations; rain still urgently wanted in several places; heavy storm occurred in Moorshedabad and Maldah; the havoc in Maldah was great. Ploughing commenced. Prospects of *boro* paddy and sugarcane good; mango almost lost; sowings of *aus* and *bhadoi* and harvesting of *boro* paddy commenced in some districts. Prices almost stationery. Cholera and small pox still continue, the former abating in several places."

FRIDAY, 9TH MAY.

We hear from Lower Perak that a Mr. Beveridge, Chief Engineer of the French Mining Company at Larut, who was recently engaged in Penang by that Company, has been arrested, and is now in custody at Kota Bennu, for shooting a Chinese cooly. As far as we can learn of the case, Mr. Beveridge had been fined $5 on that day by the Magistrate of the Kinta district, for striking the said cooly, after a proper investigation into and trial of the case. Soon after the trial Mr. Beveridge walked towards the Kongsee houses, and meeting the cooly who had complained against him, is said to have pulled out a revolver and shot him. He was immediately arrested and taken to the Kota Baoru prison, where he is now in custody awaiting trial. We are told that Mr. Beveridge states that his revolver went off accidentally. This is the first time that a European is to be tried in Perak for taking a man's life.

THE JOURNAL OFFICIEL publishes an account of the number of judicial separations (there being no divorce by French law) decreed during 1882. The number of petitions for separation (*separation de corps*) was 3,523, showing a decrease as compared with the previous year of 165. The great majority —86 per cent.—are from wives. The number of separations granted was 2,806. As the number of marriages in the same year was 280,460, the proportion of separations to marriages was about one per cent.

THE HEAD-MASTER of the Sholapore High School was recently in want of pins for the purpose of the annual examination of the school. But pins are not manufactured in India, and articles of English manufacture must be obtained from the Store Department of the India Office, Westminster. The headmaster could not put off the examination until he had framed his indent, sent it through the usual channel to the Secretary of State, and received his pins. So he boldly bought the pins in the bazaar and paid one anna for them. In fear and trembling he reported the matter to the Director of Public Instruction; the Director reported the case to the Government of Bombay, and the Government of Bombay solemnly recorded its sanction to the expenditure incurred. The resolution of the Government of Bombay, in due time, meandering through the usual channel, reached the head master, he did not lose his anna, while the principles of Government were triumphantly maintained. So much for red tape.

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION passed by a municipal committee in the North-Western Provinces, on the subject of mad dogs, will afford amusement to the reader:—"It is no doubt impossible to ascertain the degree of madness of a dog killed, and the only possible way of determining the question is that whenever the sweepers notice any dog of serial (sic) madness, such as has begun to bite and assault persons, they should report it to the Munsarim, who will issue proper orders for killing the dog, and after it has been examined by the native doctor, the person who will kill it shall be awarded annas eight for each of such dogs. The symptoms of usual madness in a dog are—1st. Attacks on people. 2nd. Not recognising his master. 3rd. Senselessness in general. When these symptoms be proved to have been truly shown by a dog, such a dog will be taken as mad and unscrupulously killed on the spot, and the person entitled will be awarded annas four for each of such dogs."

THE MAHARAJAH Dhulip Singh, G. C. S. I., was amongst the mourners at the funeral of the Duke of Albany, the position allotted to him being immediately after His Highness the Prince Francis of Teck, and before the Marquess of Lorne.

THE MOVEMENT for the formation of a Native artillery volunteer corps at Bombay has met with a fair amount of success. A sufficient number of names of intending members has been enrolled to form half a battery of four guns. A meeting will shortly be held to make arrangements for establishing the corps at an early date.

SATURDAY, 10TH MAY.

AN ENGLISH lady is said to have sent a letter to Cairo offering a reward of £20,000 to any one who will bring General Gordon safely out of Khartoum.

MR. J. RENNER MAXWELL, a full blooded native of the West Coast of Africa, has been appointed Queen's Advocate of the Gambia. Mr. Maxwell graduated at Oxford, where he took honours in the examination for both the B. A. and B. C. L. degrees, and was subsequently called to the bar at Lincoln's Inn.

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THE ENGLISHMAN'S LONDON LETTER has the following about the Bengal Tenancy Bill:

The subject of the Bengal Tenancy Bill has again been before the public this week. A general meeting of Mr. G. T. Buckland's Committee was held at Limmer's Hotel on Wednesday, for the purpose of signing petitions to both Houses of Parliament against the Bill, and for other business. The *Morning Advertiser* of Monday last had a capital leading article in which the bad faith of Lord Ripon's recent dealing with the Bill is forcibly exposed. This article has excited a good deal of attention in the provincial press; and it has been followed by several letters in the *Times*, from Mr. Dacosta, Mr. Roper Lethbridge, and Mr. Pawsey. Mr. Pawsey wrote to say that the peasantry in Maimansing—where he had been employed as a civilian to collect materials for Mr. Reynolds on this very subject—are "as independent and as well-to-do as any in India." He objected, however, to Mr. Lethbridge describing a large portion of the Bengal zemindars as "a peasant proprietary"; but Mr. Lethbridge in this morning's *Times* retorts effectively, by showing that he had quoted the very figures of the Board of Revenue.

THE PIONEER is pouring forth Strachinanity upon the poor educated Bengalis with no stinted hand. It says:

The educated Bengali is the spoilt child of the Indian Government, with all the faults usual among spoilt children. No class of natives has benefited so largely by English rule, no class is so discontented and disloyal; the most prominent result of a high class pauper education is a Native Press devoid of any sense of responsibility, and animated by a spirit of rancorous hostility to the Government which foolishly tolerates it. If that press in any degree represents the class which conducts it the pampered products of our free schools and colleges have parted with any feelings of gratitude for the beneficient rule which has rescued the effiminate races of the Lower Ganges from the oppression to which from time immemorial they had been subject, and with their unaccustomed liberty have imbibed a spirit of malevolent ingratitude for the blessings they now enjoy, which is far from being without mischievous effect because often ridiculously expressed.

We wish to tell some wholesome truths to the *Pi*. The educated Bengali is the most loyal Indian subject of the British Crown; he interprets the rulers to the ruled and the ruled to the rulers. He is not the result of "a high class pauper education," for in no other province do the voluntary contributions for education come to such a high figure as in Bengal. As for the Bengal Press let the *Pi* know that in the dark days of the Mutiny Lord Canning used to send the *Hindoo Patriot* home, saying that it contained his best defence. Perhaps if Lord Ripon were similarly appealed to, His Lordship would make a similar answer, and say that the Native papers contained his best defence.

THERE WERE 315 deaths in the town of Calcutta during the week ending 3rd May of which 106 were from cholera, 63 from fevers, 19 from bowel complaints, 7 from accidents and suicide, 23 from pthisis and asthma, 13 from convulsions, 16 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Infant mortality 55. Among non-Asiatics and mixed races the deaths were 19. The average of daily mortality was 45. There is a perceptible decrease of mortality. The ratio of deaths from 1,000 of population was only 37·9

WE HAVE received the following from a correspondent:

The venerable old mother of the late Babu Peary Churn Sircar breathed her last on the 9th instant at the age of nearly 100 years. She has left behind her one daughter aged 68 years and descendants down to the fifth generation, in grand, great grand and great great grand children about 70 in number of whom our worthy citizen Dr. Bhoobun Mohun Sircar now represents the head.

THE CENTRAL BENGAL SUNMILANI SABHA will hold their second anniversary on Monday the 12th instant.

FROM A COPY of a telegram sent to us by the Government of Bengal we learn that British quarantine rules have been enforced at Cairo upon vessels arriving from Singapore, Point De Galle, Colombo, Persia and Saigon.

THE HOME REMITTANCES of the Government of India to the 3rd of May current amounts to £1,771,600, the balance to be remitted during 1883-84 being £14,888,595.

THE TWELFTH annual meeting of the Howrah People's Association will be held at the Howrah Town Hall next Sunday.

WE ARE obliged to the Government of Bengal for a copy of the following telegram from Bombay: "Government of India have sanctioned enforcement of British Quarantine rules at Aden against vessels from Persian Gulf."

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, May 3.—The Oriental Bank has suspended payment owing to withdrawal of deposits causing loss of credit together with a heavy fall in the price of its shares.

3.—The Earl of Derby has been created a Knight of the Garter.

4.—The death is announced of Sir Edward Clive Bayley.

6.—Mr. Cross, replying to a question in the House of Commons last night, said that the correspondence respecting the changes in the Indian army was now complete, and will shortly be produced.

6.—Mr. Gladstone has fixed the 12th instant for the debate on the motion of Sir W. Hicks-Beach, condemning the Government's delay regarding General Gordon.

7.—The Egyptian Government demands that Egypt shall have a voice in the proposed Conference.

8.—The Queen arrived at Windsor yesterday.

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Dramstadt, May 5.—It is reported that the Grand Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt has married the divorced wife of a former Russian Secretary of Legation here.

6.—The Queen left here for England to-day.

St. Petersburg, May 5.—The *Caucasus Official Gazette* stated that Persia has ceded to Russia Harakhi, which will become the capital of the Tejend district.

6.—The Governor General of the Caucasus has started for Merv to carry out the organisation of Russian administration there.

Washington, May 7.—The House of Representatives have rejected the Bill for the Reduction of the Tariff.

Cairo, May 5.—Three British Officers attached to the Egyptian army have been sent up the Nile to reconnoitre, with a view to future contingencies.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Statistical Tables for British India, Eighth Issue, 1884. 2. Records of the Geological Survey of India, vol. XVII. Part 2, 1884. 3. The Annual Report of the New English School, Poona, for 1883. 4. "Things of India" made plain; or a journalist's Retrospect. To consist of four parts. Part I. 5. Journal of the East India Association Vol. XV., Nos. 3 and 4. 6. Review of the Management of Estates in the Court of Wards, or under the Taluqdar's Relief Act in Oudh, for the year ending 30th September, 1883. 7. Review of the Revenue Administration of the Province of Oudh for the year ending 30th September, 1883 8. Memorial of the Indian Reform Association and others for raising the maximum limit of age of candidates for the Indian Civil Service from 19 to 21 presented by a numerous deputation to the Right Hon'ble the Earl of Kimberley, Secretary of State for India in Council, on April 3rd, 1884. 9. The Bengal Tenancy Bill. Remarks on a paper read by W. S. Seton-Karr Esq., at a meeting of the Society of Arts. By J. Dacosta. 10. The Theosophist, Vol. V. No. 8, May 1884. 11. Army Circulars, India, 17th and 30th April, 1884. 12. Cash Price List of Stationary, and other articles, sold by Ramdhone Naug and Nilmoney Haldar, 106 Radhabazar Street. 13. The Journal of Indian Art, No. 2: 14. The Indian Omnibus, a monthly Literary Circular and General Advertiser for May 1884. Published by Messrs Newman and Co. Ld. 15. The Voice of India for April, 1884. 16. Prikriti-Stotrum or prayers in Sanskrit. By Gourinath Sen Kavirunjun. 17. *Adbhut Indrajal* or Wonderful Chemical experiments and analyses according to the Hindu system, Vol. I. Nos. 1 to 4. 18. Sakha, a Bengali monthly, Vol. II. No. 5. 19. The People's Magazine Vol. I. No. 1, Madras.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MAY 12, 1884.

INDIA IN ENGLAND.

A PUBLIC meeting was held at the Kensington Town Hall to consider the Indian view of Lord Ripon's policy. The meeting was largely attended by Indian gentlemen. Mr. Firth M. P., who took the chair, in his opening address said, "that in England we are extremely anxious that in our dealings with our Eastern Empire we should display not merely the greatest interest in the inhabitants themselves, but also an anxiety to carry out there the same privileges which we are so anxious to support at home. In order that we may thoroughly comprehend what are the difficulties with which we have to deal, it is best and it is above all things congenial to the English spirit of fair play, that we should hear both sides of the question. (Hear, hear.) For that purpose it might have been better if the chair to-night had been occupied by one of Her Majesty's Indian subjects, but, as I was asked to introduce the Indian speakers, I felt that it was only due to them that I should render them any service in my power." After quoting the benign behests of the Queen's proclamation Mr. Firth remarked:

And with respect to the Ilbert Bill, whilst it is not to be denied that it does not come entirely up to that standard, yet in its first form it approximated very nearly to it; and even with the compromise which has since been made, it is still a step, and I think an important step, in that direction. (Cheers.) It is above all things essential, in the Government of our Indian empire, that we should secure an extension to our Indian subjects of the blessings of perfect and equal justice; and, as a matter of good government, it is also wise that we should instil into the minds of the inhabitants of India this belief, that such justice is available to them. (Cheers.) It is not merely that there should be justice and equality for our Indian subjects, but it is necessary that they should have perfect confidence in the administration of the law. Well, the Ilbert Bill, as you know, proposes to advance the ambition, the righteous ambition, of our Indian subjects, by opening to them certain offices which had not been fully open to them before; and it appears that, for reasons which, perhaps, are complicated, but which we cannot but regret, the Anglo-Indians have, to a very great extent, objected to that reform.

We heartily thank the speaker, but the opening of higher offices to the natives of India under the Ilbert Bill policy is a mockery and a delusion. Lord Kimberly's decision on the question of age of candidates for the Indian Civil Service competition shows how Her Majesty's Indian Minister is disposed to carry out the benevolent intentions of the Royal Proclamation.

Mr. Lalmohun Ghose delivered the next speech which was *the* speech of the occasion. We regret that he began by flinging himself into the whirlpool of party politics of England. He said:

Well, at any rate, it is not the fault of India, if Indian questions have to a certain extent, come to be mixed up with the strife of political parties. (Hear, hear.) It is not our fault that a man like Lord Lytton was sent out as Viceroy of India, nor can it be expected that the Indian people should be grateful to the party, or to the statesman who imposed on us the most oppressive forms of taxation, and who looked on with indifference at the indescribable sufferings of our people, while millions of them perished of starvation. (Cries of "shame.") Well, gentlemen, the consequence was, that, before we had three or four years of that administration, a dark cloud began to gather over the whole Indian Empire, and the only gleam of hope that shone upon us was derived from the attitude of the great Liberal party. (Applause.) Well, gentlemen, then came the dissolution of Parliament four years ago, and I can assure you that I do not exaggerate in the least when I tell you that from every Indian home, from every Indian heart, there went forth fervent wishes for the success of the Liberal party! (Cheers and applause.)

While we subscribe to all that Mr. Ghose says about Lord Ripon personally, we are not prepared to say that we have much to choose between the Conservative Government and the Liberal Government as the governing agency. The Conservative Government wanted to please Manchester by repealing the Cotton duties and advanced towards that end step by step. The Liberal Government made a bold and dashing move by repealing the duties altogether. The Conservative Government sought to equalise the salt duties within certain territorial limits, but the Liberal Government in order to propitiate Lancashire lowered the salt duties so much that it now feels the loss of revenue from it. The Conservative Government had madly plunged itself into an unprofitable war with Afghanstan, but the Liberal Government in concluding the peace made it inconsequential, and now it is going to pursue at a great expense the policy of the Conservative Government without of course resorting to armed intervention. The Conservative Government illegally and unjustly appropriated the revenues of India to the exigencies of England's European policy in the East by attacking Affghanstan; the Liberal Government similarly appropriated the Indian revenues to meet the cost of the Egyptian war. The Conservative Government professed to foster private enterprise, but practically did not do much, whereas the Liberal Government while professing to encourage private enterprise has for the most part favored European capitalists with State subventions. The Conservative Government imposed the Arms Act, the Liberal Government has done nothing to soften its rigors. The Conservative Government imposed the License tax, but the Liberal Government has allowed it to remain untouched. The only redeeming act which the Liberal Government has performed has been the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act passed by the Conservative Government, but that Act under the operation of public opinion had already become a dead letter.

As for the Ilbert Bill, we will allow Mr. Ghose to speak on its merits:

It was a Bill brought forward to remove certain judicial qualifications attaching to Native Indian Judges and Magistrates in regard to the trial of English prisoners charged with certain petty offences. Well, even if that Bill had been carried out in its original form, it would not have affected more than eight or nine Indian Magistrates throughout India, but small as were the practical consequences of the Bill, we nevertheless attached considerable importance to it, because it seemed to us to be a step in the right direction, and because it paved the way for further reforms; and it enabled us to hope that we were at length approaching the time when there should no longer be one law for the Englishman and another for the Indian, and when all classes of Her Majesty's subjects were to live under the same laws, and be amenable to the same tribunals.

But we have seen that the Government of India has found itself unable even to carry that small Bill through. It was a very small Bill, even as originally conceived; it grew beautifully less by degrees, and now it has dwindled down almost to nothing. Well, Sir, when this compromise was first made known, my countrymen naturally felt very considerable disappointment. Many of you may have read in the *Daily News* that a correspondent of that journal, telegraphing from the North-Western Provinces of India, stated that he found everywhere a feeling of angry disappointment. Well, gentlemen, I must confess that for a time it seemed as if the feelings of loyalty to the Throne, and of grateful admiration for the Viceroy were about to give way to resentment and sullen discontent; it seemed as if my countrymen were about to lose all faith in the sincerity of English statesmen or, at any rate, in their capacity and power to do justice to us when the Anglo-Indian community were interested in the perpetuation of injustice and oppress on. But, gentlemen, when we had time for reflection, and after the first outburst of disappointment, better counsels prevailed. We recognised the earnestness with which Lord Ripon had labored for the good of the people. (Cheers.) But to return once more, and only for a moment, to this Ilbert Bill. It proposed, as you know, to remove at once and completely all judicial qualifications based solely on distinction of race. But, gentlemen, under the compromise that has now been entered into, these qualifications will continue just as before in the case of all officers below a certain rank, namely, the rank of District Magistrates. Now, gentlemen, it is enacted that whenever an English prisoner is brought up before a District Magistrate, no matter how trivial the offence may be with which he is charged—with being drunk or disorderly in the streets he may claim to be tried by a Jury, a majority of whom must be composed of his own countrymen. (A voice of "No, no".) A gentleman behind me says "No," But I can only say that the statement I have made is perfectly correct, and I am astonished to find that a gentleman like Mr. Foggo, intimately connected as he is with an Indian Reform Association, should not have taken the trouble to acquaint himself with the exact terms of this compromise, and that he should take it upon himself to interrupt and contradict me on insufficient information and imperfect knowledge. (Laughter and cheers.) Well, gentlemen, it comes to this, that while a Native of India may be sentenced to capital punishment without the intervention of a Jury, the same Magistrate may not of himself impose a shilling fine on a drunken Englishman (Shame, shame.) And you ought to remember, gentlemen, that in many parts of India it is no easy matter to call together an English Jury; and, if this right comes to be largely exercised, instead of facilitating, it will paralyse the administration of justice. And then, again, gentlemen, you must bear in mind, that even when a Magistrate is just barely able to empannel a Jury, the Jury in most cases must necessarily be composed of the personal friends of the prisoner, of men who, in connection with this very controversy, have displayed such hostility towards the Indian people that it would be idle to expect from them anything like impartiality in cases between Englishmen and Natives of India. Well, gentlemen, I had an opportunity the other evening at a House Dinner of the National Liberal Club to hear the noble Lord, the Secretary of State for India, defend the compromise. Lord Kimberley's defence amounted to this that inasmuch as the new law only referred to District Magistrates, and because those officers, having a variety of other duties to perform, seldom took up any judicial work the evils which we anticipate would not, perhaps, be much felt in practice. Now it struck me at the time that it was a very damaging kind of defence to make. For it amounts to this that the few men who are now raised to a footing of nominal equality with their European colleagues are not expected to exercise the power that has been theoretically conferred upon them, (hear, hear), while those who really do such judicial work continued to remain disqualified as before. In other words, the Bill is to remain a dead letter, and is defended on the ground that it is expected to be practically inoperative. (Shame.)

So much for the Ilbert Bill compromise, and so much for the policy of the Liberal Government. We cannot conclude this part of the subject without calling attention to one prominent act of the Liberal Government. It was a Conservative Secretary of State for India who reduced the age

of candidates for the Indian Civil Service competition from 21 to 19 years evidently to shut out the natives of India from the Civil Service through the door of competition, and it was left to a Libaral Secretary of State to confirm that highly illiberal and repressive measure. In the face of these facts we ask the reader whether in essential matters of Indian administration we have much to choose between the Conservative and the Liberal, whether as regards those matters they are not of one mind and one feeling.

Mr. Ghose thus spoke on the extension of jury trial to natives and on the separation of the judicial and executive services:

Well, gentlemen, under these circumstances we are willing to adopt this compromise, at least, as a temporary solution of the difficulty, if only the Government will now, as an act of justice towards us, equalize the situation by extending the right of trial by Jury equally to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects without distinction of race. (Loud cheers.) Then again, gentlemen, intimately connected with this question there is another reform which is, if possible, even more urgently required, and which is now unanimously demanded by the entire population of India. It is the separation, as far as practicable, of executive from judicial functions, which are now frequently combined in the same officer—a combination that is a fruitful source of gross judicial scandals and grave miscarriages of justice. Well, Sir, these are some of the questions which are engrossing public attention in India, and for the satisfactory solution of which we have to look to the support of public opinion in England. (Cheers.) Unfortunately, we know by experience that the Viceroy, good and conscientious as he is, is occasionally unable to stem the tide of Anglo-Indian passion and prejudice. Then, again, as regards the India Office, judging by the speech which Lord Kimberley made to the Indian deputation that waited on him yesterday—a speech to which I listened with great pain (hear, hear)—the India Office does not seem to be troubled with any very overflowing saympathies for the Indian people. Well, gentlemen, we are compelled in this predicament to turn to the just and generous instincts of the English nation as our best safeguard—(Cheers)—and our best protection, both against the interested motives of selfish cliques in India and against the narrow ideas and restricted horizon of officials(Cheers.)

We fully subscribe to the above. Mr. Ghose at last seems to descry the cloud hanging on the horizon, and if that cloud is to be removed at all, it cannot be removed by the soiled hand of the Conservative or the Liberal, but by the pure hand of the great British nation, which in the aggregate is responsible for the protection, welfare, and happiness of the dumb millions of India.

ADMISSION OF NATIVES TO THE CIVIL SERVICE.

In a recent issue we have expressed our opinion that the deputation to Lord Kimberley without the intervention of the Government of India on the subject of the age limit for candidates presenting themselves for examination with a view to enter the Indian Civil Service, was a great mistake. Nevertheless, we feel bound to say that we strongly disapprove the reply which the Secretary of State returned to the deputation. Lord Kimberley's views upon the great question of the admission of Natives to the Civil Service have dealt a death-blow to the legitimate aspirations of our educated countrymen to take a fair share in the higher administration of their own fatherland. We do not for a moment contend that the standard of age for candidates presenting themselves for examination with a view to enter the Indian Civil Services should be raised for the special benefit of our countrymen. But we *do* maintain that the lowering of the age effected by Lord Salisbury was a grave blunder, and that the limit ought to be raised to the figure at which it stood up to 1864—namely, 22 years. It is a great pity that Lord Kimberley did not take a broad and comprehensive view of the question. We know well that there is an opinion among the older men of the Civil Service in favour of sending out very young men to India. But we must not overlook the important consideration that it is not safe to expose to the trials of a tropical climate youths who are not fully developed? Lord Kimberley should know that under the new system introduced by Lord Salisbury in 1876 men now come out so young that, as the *Civil and Military Gazette* pertinently remarks, "for the first few years of their service it takes them all their time to grow up, a feat which would be better, more cheaply, and more safely performed in England." Professor Thorold Rogers, M. P. in introducing the deputation to Lord Kimberley, truly observed that the requirements of the present regulations put a very severe strain upon young men between the ages of seventeen and nineteen, and he pointed out that the lowering of the maximum age from twenty-one to nineteen had had a very disastrous effect upon the *personnel* of the service. This was denied by Lord Kimberley, who said that the most careful inquiries had failed to show that candidates sent out under the new regulations were in any way physically inferior to those admitted under the old system. As we have in a recent issue discussed the nature of these inquiries and of the replies evoked by them, we need not say anything more on it here.

The Indian Civil Service being the best paid service in the wolrd we have a right to expect that it should be recruited from the best materials available. Leaving the question of physic apart, there are some other weighty considerations involved in this matter. Do we under Lord Salisbury's system get the best educated men available? We will allow the *Pioneer*—the recognised organ of the Civil Service—to answer this question. Our contemporary, discussing this subject sometime ago wrote :—"It seems to be admitted on all hands that the boys of 17 and 18 who under the present regulations, come up to the University after passing the open competition, are too young to reap the full benefit of such an education and will have to leave the University and enter upon work in India at the very time when another year or two of such University life would best develop their minds, and give them wide and liberal and lasting views of men and things. Under the rules indeed, candidates are allowed to remain a year longer if they choose; but the inducement is small, and few are likely to avail themselves of the permission. It seems likely that after a fair trial has been given to Lord Salisbury's innovation, it will be found advisable to make a change in the orther direction, and to return to something like the arrangements of the first year or two of the competitive system which secured for India so many men of exceptional ability. If the age of candidates for the open competition were raised to 22 or 23, there seems every likelihood that graduates of the universities would be attracted in considerable numbers, notwithstanding the grumble oft repeated of late, that the service is not what it was. An under-graduate, reading for "Greats" thinks of little beyond; and it is only after having taken as high honours as he can that he begins to look about him for some career in life. And there are not a few such men who after a little experience of the violent competition which prevails in all professions at home, would gladly enter upon a career in India. Once secure able men, and there will be little difficulty in training them. Graduates will after one year's special training, be fit to enter upon their duties in India as boys will after two years; and men so chosen need be little older in commencing their work in India than the men who have come out of late years of whom it can be said that they begin work too old. Lord Salisbury's scheme has failed, too, in ruining the private 'crammers' which was said to be one of its objects, and it seems already certain that a return to the earlier system will give the best results." We need scarcely say that we subscribe to every word in the passages just quoted. The *Pioneer* may now conveniently forget what it previously wrote on this question and heartily approve Lord Kimberley's reply to the deputation; but no sensible and right-thinking person can ignore the weighty facts and considerations, which have been so well put in the passage quoted above. Lord Salisbury's professed object in lowering the age was that a University education could not be ensured for the candidates for the Indian Civil Service by adopting any other course. This argument is utterly untenable. It is true that a University education could not be ensured for the candidates while the limit of age stood at 21; but then the object which Lord Salisbury had in view might have been better obtained by raising the standard of age if he had reverted to the limit which existed up to 1864; the result would have been to attract the graduates of the Universities to the Indian Civil Service in considerable numbers. As long as the limit of age stood 22. Oxford and Cambridge sent a very large number of successful candidates to India. "When the age was 22," said Sir Lionel Playfair, in his place in the House of Commons, "two-fifths of the candidates came from Oxford and Cambridge; but when it was reduced to 21 the crammers soon beat Oxford and Cambridge." As Mr. Haggard, late Joint-Magistrate of Serampore, reminded Lord Kimberley, the Civil Service regulations were altered by Lord Salisbury in the teeth of the opinion of the whole Indian Civil Service. When the question was referred to Lord Northbrook, he consulted selected officers including some of the highest dignitaries in the three Presidencies. Of these, 41 were opposed to any changes at all; 41 recommended the raising of the minimum age from 21 to 22, 13 were in favour of making 20 the maximum limit, and only 15 proposed 19. It is thus evident that 95 of the 110 individuals consulted by Lord Northbrook were opposed to reducing the limit of age to 19. Lord Northbrook himself recommended 22, and Lord Salisbury would have given effect to this recommendation, if his real object had been to give Indian Civilians the benefits of University training.

Lord Kimberley seems to think that the creation of Lord Lytton's Native Civil Service has solved the problem of the admission of Natives to the Covenanted Civil Service. We have said over and over again in these columns and repeat it in the most emphatic manner possible that our educated countrymen do not want a shorter and easier route to the Covenanted Civil Service. They contemptuously decline all suggestions that some backstair way into that coveted Service, specially intended for them, should be created. We have always fought as strongly against such proposals as against the entire exclusion of Natives from the Covenanted Civil Service. We take it for an axiom that the same preparation which Englishmen require to qualify them for the Civil Service is equally necessary for our countrymen. In a word, we merely ask for fair play and no favour in the matter of the employment of our countrymen in the public service. Lord Ripon would grievously disappoint our expectations if His Lordship should leave the country before solving the great problem of the admission of Natives to the Covenanted Civil Service.

ANOTHER CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF THE SALEM RIOTS.

WE have not as yet done with the disgraceful and scandalous part which the Madras Government has played in the wretched and painful drama of the Salem riots. In a recent issue we showed how Mr. McIver, the Special Magistrate, who was deputed to Salem after the riots, performed the judicial duties entrusted to him; how the prosecution of the alleged rioters was conducted and how justice was administered. The startling revelations which the Madras correspondent of the *Pioneer* has made on these points must still be fresh in the recollection of the reader. The same well-informed and impartial writer has again made some disclosures concerning the case of the dismissed Sheristadar of the Magistrate's Court of Salem, which throw further light upon the whole business. His statement of the case seems to be so unbiassed and fair that we have no hesitation whatever in accepting it as correct.

On the 10th of February 1883 Venkata Subba Row, who had been in Government service for 25 years, was suddenly dismissed from the sheristadarship of the Salem Magistrate's Court. He applied to the Magistrate for a copy of the Government order removing him, but his application was not granted. He then petitioned the Government and was furnished with only a portion of the order. That portion, however, is quite sufficient for our purpose. It runs as follows: "His Excellency the Governor in

Council notes that the Resolution of the Government of India on the subject of the removal of public servants provides, that when facts or inferences against such persons are elicited at a judicial trial nothing further is needed. Against the Sheristadar A. Venkata Subba Rao, there is his own evidence at the trial and the comments thereon by the Additional Sessions Judge. There is also the Collector's report as to his being corrupt. This is sufficient to warrant his dismissal, and the Government direct that he be dismissed accordingly from the public service." The dismissed Sheristadar naturally asked for further particulars and he was informed:—"At the conclusion of the Collector's report regarding petitioner's misconduct before, during, and after the riots, it was added that the Collector had formed an unfavourable opinion of petitioner's integrity, but no specific accusation was formulated." Now, the Sheristadar was not a party in the Salem riots, he was only a witness. Immediately after he had given his evidence in the case Dr. Macleane conceived a sudden opinion hostile to his integrity. He saw no reason to suspect the Sheristadar any day between the time he took charge of the Salem district and the 14th November 1832 when the Sheristadar was examined as a witness. It would therefore seem that the sudden change in Dr. Macleane's opinion about the Sheristadar had nothing to do with the evidence the latter gave in court. The simple truth is, that Dr. Macleane wanted the Sheristadar to shape his evidence in order that the statement made in the former's report to Government might be corroborated. This is conclusively proved by the documents which the Madras correspondent of the *Pioneer* has brought to light. We cannot resist the temptation of reproducing these documents *in extenso*. On the 11th November, 1882 Dr. Macleane wrote as follows to Mr. McIver, the Special Magistrate:

MY DEAR MCIVER,—As Shephard's opening reads in the papers and equally Mullaly's evidence, it would appear as if nothing whatever was done as the result of having the meeting at the Town Hall on 12th August, and that after some talk the meeting was simply adjourned for a week.

"That is not so. You will find the real particulars in marked portions of the enclosed. The Sheristadar told me over my table they would not *razi* anything in my presence, and that having formally opened the proceedings I had better retire so as to let them have their talk. That was done, and half an hour afterwards he brought me at my house the offer about the division of the streets. It was *upon that* I settled to have another meeting that day week. The witness to bring this out, if wanted, is the Sheristadar. Please show this to Government Pleader and ask him (if the caution is wanted, which very likely it is not) to consult his file of the reports to Government, if he wants to know my version of anything about the riots. The more these cases go on in criminal courts the more I feel that, as far as I myself and my office are concerned, there is nothing to add to what was reported to Government at the first outset.

"I don't know how your second conspiracy case is running, or what in it is explained by the 12th August incident. But exact facts must always be of use, and the real truth about that Saturday business, was that respectable people distinctly offered a compromise, but that Sundmur and Vigiarashava Charry would have none of it.

"Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) C. D. MACLEANE."

In this Dr. Macleane enclosed the following extract from his report to Government.

"On the 12th I returned to Salem to attend a Local Funds meeting and also to hold a meeting of Hindus and Mahomedans on the subject of the previous riots. At the latter meeting I said I had often spoken with them apart, but I wished to speak to them together. I said that Government need at all hazards support order. If they could suggest any peaceful means of settling differences, I said that the present would be a good opportunity. The reply to this was a compromise volunteered by one or two of the leading men on each side. The members of the meeting gave me the general idea of the compromise. It was that the street should be diverted, and Mahomedan houses built so that the mosque should be no longer exposed. They asked me for a week to settle details. I said I would have another meeting that day week. There were those present doubtless who kept their own counsels. But I consider that the offer was genuine on the part of those who made it and of the majority of the respectable people. As it has turned out one of the Chetties mentioned in para. 17 of my last report determined to frustrate these amicable arrangements by an organised attack upon the mosque."

The envelope containing these two pieces of paper was *left open*, and sent to the Sheristadar with the following note.

"Sheristadar.—Read enclosed, close the cover, and send on quickly to the Sessions Court.

"(S.) C. D. M.—11. 11."

Now, what do these documents prove? Do they not conclusively establish the fact that the Sheristadar should corroborate history as to the meeting on the 12th of August? Dr. Macleane, indeed, suggested to the Sheristadar the line which his evidence should follow, and at the same time he wished Mr. McIver to believe that that evidence was the spontaneous testimony of the Sheristadar. The Sheristadar returned the letters to Dr. Macleane instead of sending them to Mr. McIver. Dr. Macleane sent for him and asked him for an explanation of his conduct. The Sheristadar stated that the Collector might not have remembered correctly what passed at the meeting of 12th August after such a lapse of time. The Sheristadar gave his evidence in Court like an honest man. He stated what he believed to be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. And his statement was strongly corroborated by the evidence of Mr. Mullaly, who was the Head Assistant under Dr. Macleane. The Sheristadar in his evidence, of course, contradicted on oath the version given by the Collector in his reply to Government; and the poor man's fate was sealed. He was examined in Court on the 14th November 1882. Up to that date Dr. Macleane had treated the Shristadar as an honest man and there was no charge of corruption against him. But on the evening of the 14th November he sent for the Sheristadar, and told him:—"I would have *let you off and assisted you* if you had behaved well in Court. Take leave at once for three months on half pay and send your application to-night, as I must report you to Government at once." The Sheristadar was accordingly handed up to Government on a charge of corruption, though no specific accusation was formulated against him, and he was, to use the language of the Madras correspondent of the *Pioneer*, "dismissed *ex parte*, unheard, without the chance of any enquiry after twenty-five years' service on the charge, unsubstantiated by a tittle of evidence."

Nor is this all. It is true that the comments of Mr. Wigram, the additional Sessions Judge on the Sheristadar's evidence, damned him. But the High Court on appeal relied upon that evidence, which the Chief Justice characterised as "an apparently impartial statement." The Sheristadar then applied to the High Court to expunge the obnoxious comments of Mr. Wigram. Though the Court held that it had no power for technical reasons to grant the petitioner's prayer, yet the Judge made certain remarks, which practically cleared him from Mr. Wigram's imputation. These proceedings were forwarded to the Government of Madras, who were requested to reconsider the Sheristadar's case, but they "saw no reason to interfere." The Sheristadar naturally thought that he had nothing more to expect from the Madras Government. But Mr. Grant Duff and his colleagues afterwards saw reason to re-open the case. A hint was given to the dismissed Sheristadar that Mr. Forster Wester, the Chief Secretary to the Madras Government, wished to see him in private. He saw the Chief Secretary and was informed that if he submitted a quiet petition merely stating his honorable service and throwing himself upon the mercy of Government, his case might be taken into consideration. The Sheristadar acted on Mr. Wester's advice and the Madras Government immediately directed the Board of Revenue to take an early opportunity to confer upon the dismissed man a second class tehsildarship. But the Governor in Council repeated his disapprobation of the Sheristadar's conduct. We are glad to know that this scandalous matter will not be allowed to drop. The Madras correspondent of the *Pioneer* remarks:—"Mr. Grant Duff can do a great deal; but he cannot stifle the petition which is going home anent this matter; he cannot prevent its being placed in the hands of every member of both Houses; he cannot hinder the lovers of fair play enlisting the sympathies of private members; he cannot deny access to the English press. We have a right to demand that an accusation so grave, preferred so openly against a high placed member of a very honorable service, shall be openly met. The process of sifting has been carried on long enough. We want a little day-light, and we mean to have it." We earnestly hope the House of Commons will move the appointment of a Royal Commission to make a comprehensive and sifting enquiry into the whole affair connected with the Salem riots. Without such an enquiry the real truth about the matter cannot be known.

THE CALCUTTA CORPORATION.

THE recent move of the Calcutta Corporation asking the Bengal Government to relieve it of Police charges in accordance with the general policy of Government on the subject and to permit it to apply the money thus saved to sanitary and town improvement, has, we are glad to observe, resulted in a partial concession on the part of Government. The drift of the concession is thus summed up:

On a careful review of the financial conditions of the Province, the Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that it will be possible, consistently with the claims of other parts of Bengal, to increase the Government contribution on account of the Calcutta Police from one-fourth to one half of the total expenditure, with effect from the next official year 1884-85. The effect of this would virtually be to place at the disposal of the Commissioners a sum of about one lakh of rupees a year. The Lieutenant-Governor will be prepared to relieve the municipal revenues to this extent on the condition that the Commissioners undertake to set apart annually from their General Fund a sum of not less than Rs 2, 50, 000 to be expended on sanitary works and on town improvements of a large and comprehensive character, in accordance with a scheme to be approved by Government. For extensive works of a permanent character it would probably be necessary to employ borrowed capital, and the Lieutenant-Governor would not object, in that case, to a portion of this sum of 2½ lakhs being hypothecated for the payment of the interest charges. It is probable that this plan will afford the speediest and most effectual means of dealing with the conditions that prevail in the northern portion of the Town.

There should be no difficulty in making the necessary funds available. The Commissioners have already been required, both by the Local Government and by the Government of India, to devote at least 1½ lakhs per annum from the General Fund to town improvements; and the Lieutenant-Governor is glad to acknowledge the promptitude with which they have responded to the call. The sum which will be set free by the increase in the Government contribution towards the police charges will make up the required amount of Rs. 2, 50, 000. This sum can be provided without difficulty by raising the house-rate by one per cent., simultaneously with the decrease in the police-rate. The Lieutenant-Governor does not consider that the effect of this change will involve any material transfer of taxation from occupiers to owners. The house-rate, no doubt, is in the first instance paid by the owners, but that it does not ultimately rest with them is unquestionable. A part of it at least, and in some cases the whole, is indirectly transferred to the occupiers, and its incidence adjusts itself according to natural laws which are for the most part beyond the control of Government.

While we commend the liberality of the Bengal Government, we must demur to the proposal for the increase of the House-rate. It is not fair that the burden of Municipal taxation should fall on house-owners. In the next place we hold that the house-rate ought not to exceed the maximum of 7½ per cent. In the third place, as Mr. Harrison showed the other day, the Municipality has been living for the last three years upon the economies of the previous years, and that when the balances will be eaten up, as they will probably be, by the end of this year, the increase of the house-rate will become an imperative necessity. And if with this contingency the fresh obligation, proposed by the Lieutenant-Governor, be imposed, the house-rate, we fear, will run up to nine or ten per cent. per annum. It is notorious that Calcutta is more heavily taxed than any other Indian town. On this point the last annual report of the Calcutta Corporation contains the following remarks:

Of all the large Indian towns Calcutta is the most heavily taxed for municipal purposes. This fact was clearly set forth in a memorial of certain ratepayers of Simla, submitted to Government in 1881. The following paragraph of the memorial gives some interesting details on the subject:—

That taking the rest of the entire Asian British Empire, the following are the most heavily taxed Municipalities, together with the rates of incidence of taxation in each:—

Bengal.	*Rs. A. P.*	
Calcutta ...	6 12 8	(In no others does the incidence reach Rs. 2.)

Bombay.				
Bombay (city)	...	3	8	0
Ashta	...	2	1	5
Pandharpur	...	2	9	8
Kurrachi	...	4	8	6
Hydrabad	...	2	5	0
Tand Adam	...	2	9	2
Sukkur	...	6	9	4 (Abnormal, and it is understood since reduced to less than half.)
Jacobabad	...	2	15	4 (In no others does the incidence reach Rs. 2.)
Madras.				
Madras (city)	...	1	12	0
Canoor	...	2	2	9
Ootacamond	...	2	14	3 (In no others does the incidence reach Rs. 2.)
N.-W. Provinces and Oudh.				
Mussoorie	...	2	5	6 (In no other does the incidence reach Rs. 2.)
Central Provinces.—(In no Municipality does the incidence reach Rs. 2.)				
Berar.—		(	Ditto	ditto)
Assam —		(	Ditto	ditto)
Mysore.				
Viragentrapet	...	2	4	0 (In no others does the incidence reach Rs. 2.)
Burmah.				
Rangoon	...	4	1	3
Akyab	...	2	0	3
Bassein	...	2	15	9
Moulmein	..	2	0	1
Tonghoo	...	2	5	1 (In no other does the incidence reach Rs. 2.)

That, in short, in 94 per cent of all the Municipalities the incidence of taxation is less than one-fifth of what it is in Simla, and that in only *one, viz.*, —Calcutta (for neither Sukkur nor Edwardesabad can be reckoned) does it materially exceed one-half of that obtaining in our unfortunate Municipality.

It will be thus seen that it cannot be advisable to increase the house-rate. But we are quite willing to accept the Lieutenant-Governor's suggestion with this modification. Let the drainage works be completed and the sum of 1,50,000 now set apart for those works be reserved annually, as heretofore, for sanitary and town improvements, and added to the sum of one lakh of rupees of the police grant. There will be then available annually an aggregate of Rs. 2,50,000 for the improvements proposed by the Corporation and approved by the Lieutenant-Governor.

CHITTAGONG.

THE land settlement of Chittagong has always been beset with difficulties. Some of our best revenue officers have failed to solve the question. One of them, the well-known sub-treasurer, Mr. Harvey, had a narrow escape with his life. We believe he was succeeded by Sir Henry Ricketts, who did his best to throw oil over troubled waters. But the Noabad question had always remained a burning question. About four or five years ago Mr. Dampier himself paid a visit to Chittagong and made personal enquiries into the merits of the question. He then submitted an able and elaborate report to Government, but its conclusions, as far as we recollect them, were not quite conclusive or satisfactory. But the Noabad enquiry went on with undiminished vigour, and the dissatisfaction which it caused was loud, deep and wide. We are glad to learn that Mr. Lowis, the present Commissioner of Chittagong, has made some recommendations on the subject which the Talukdars of Chittagong are willing to accept. The Talukdars we observe held a meeting on the 15th April last at which they passed a series of resolutions on the subject. In compliance with their request we give the Resolutions below :

1*st Resolution.*—Moved by D. Fuller Esquire. Seconded by Babu Chaitanya Charan Datta.

That in the opinion of this meeting the claims of the Noabad talukdar to resettlement on the former Jumma are based upon title as good as those of the Zemindar, the taluks being parts of the Zemindari, and dating earlier than the Permanent Settlement.

Carried unanimously.

2*nd Resolution.*—Moved by Babu Durga Das Das. Seconded by Babu Gagan Chand Chowdry.

That the Noabad taluks were permanent in their inception and ought to be treated as such, having been separated from Permanent Estates; which separation became necessary for no fault of the talukdars but for wrong measurement made by the Government Ameens prior to 1793; and by which separation Chittagong land-holders have been placed relatively in a worse position than those of other parts of Bengal.

Carried unanimously.

3*rd Resolution.*—Proposed by Babu Kamala Kant Sen, Seconded by Babu Jatra Mohun Sen.

That the survey proceedings of 1200 Mughee was a fruitful source of litigation which lasted for many years and from which the people had hardly recovered themselves, when, unfortunately for them another survey operation commenced in 1875, which has already caused considerable uneasiness to the people and thrown them into a consternation.

Carried unanimously.

4*th Resolution.*—Proposed by Babu Kailas Chunder Sen. Seconded by Babu Gour Chandra Coondo.

That the Government in 1854 by conferring upon the people the boon of a Permanent Settlement, which for many reasons could not be availed of, recognised the claims of the Noabad talukdar to consideration; and that the people have done nothing to deserve such a hard treatment as the entire loss of their status under the recent settlement.

Carried unanimously.

5*th Resolution.*—Moved by Meah Obedur Rahaman Chowdry. Seconded by Meah Zaker Ali Chowdry.

That the recent measurement and settlement is worthless for various reasons legal and otherwise, and has failed to gain the desired objects.

Carried unanimously.

6*th Resolution.*—Proposed by Babu Kali Kumar Roy. Seconded by Babu Khirod Chandra Das.

That the grateful thanks of the people of Chittagong be communicated to their Commissioner, E. E. Lowis Esquire, for the just view entertained by him in connection with the Noabad question : That he be respectfully requested to lay these humble Resolutions before His Honor during his proposed visit to Darjeeling: That this meeting express their full confidence in his judgment, and trust that the views entertained by him as to the Noabad question will be accepted by His Honor.

Carried unanimously.

There is at last a prospect of the solution of the Noabad settlement question. We hope Mr. Rivers Thompson, who in his recent visit to Chittagong had given to the people there so much satisfaction, will deal with it in a broad and liberal spirit and set at rest once for all a vexed question, which has baffled the efforts of so many of his predecessors.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE ARE SORRY to notice the death of Sir Eward Clive Bayley announced by Reuter. According to a contemporary, he was born in 1821, was educated at Haileybury College, and entered the Bengal Civil Service in 1842. He married a daughter of Sir T. T. Metcalfe in 1850, was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple in 1857, and under Lord Elgin was Secretary to the Government of India in the Home Department. In 1873, under Lord Northbrook, he became a member of the Viceroy's Council, while for four years before he retired he held the post of Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University. We believe he was the Commissioner of Goruckpoor during the Mutinies, and was brought from the North-West to fill the office of Home Secretary to the Government of India, which he held for a long time. He was not a man of brilliant parts, but was a hard, steady worker. He used to take interest in Indian antiquities, particularly in coins. As President of the Asiatic Society he will be long remembered for the part he played in connection with the shoe question raised by Pundit Iswara Chandra Vidyasagara.

WE HAVE received the following important telegram from the Press Commissioner :—

Owing to arrangements made by the Secretary of State at Home there is no reason to anticipate that it will be necessary to borrow in India, this year the Government has no present intention of raising a loan.

WE OBSERVE that Mr. Sterndale, Vice-Chairman of the Suburban Municipality, has been appointed to officiate as Deputy Collector of Calcutta during the absence of Mr. Goodricke on leave. We object to this appointment on the same grounds on which we objected to that of Mr. Goodricke. In the first place both of them are new to the work, and the work is of a nature, which it takes one some long experience to master. But let that pass, work in a public office somehow goes on, though the head of it may do nothing. But what we particularly object to is the supercession of the claims of experienced and approved officers of the department. The Calcutta Collectorship is a prize appointment for the Subordinate Executive Service, and it ought not to be snatched away from it, but strange to say that every now and then it is conferred on outsiders at the caprice of Government. Suppose a barrister or a military or uncovenanted officer were pitchforked into the Civil Service, would not the Civilians as a body shriek and protest? Half-a-dozen such appointments would make the position of the Lieutenant-Governor who would order them shaky. In the Punjab military men are appointed to district appointments, and a cry was raised in Parliament that they had been unduly fostered to the prejudice of the members of the Covenanted Civil Service. Even such encroachments on the education service are resented with vigour. But the poor Subordinate Executive Service has no strength, no friend. The other day the Bengal Government wanted to displace Babu Rajendranath Mitter from the Secretariat, and he was transferred to the Subordinate Executive Service. What is the use of making it a graded service, if any intruder can be pitchforked into any grade at the sweet will of Government. It is this trifling with the Subordinate Executive Service against which we protest. We regret the more, because such gross injustice has taken place under the *regime* of Mr. Rivers Thompson and Mr. F. B. Peacock.

EVEN THE PIONEER though lately defending the Revenue Secretary of the Bengal Government, cannot deny the baleful influence which he exercises upon the Rent Bill question. The Allahabad paper says :

Mr. MacDonnell in writing his memorandum merely performed the ordinary duty of the Revenue Secretary and the unusual course of publicly connecting his name with the memorandum was solely owing to the orders of higher authority. It is another question, however, how far Mr. Rivers Thompson was wise in devolving so responsible and important a duty on a Secretary, and contenting himself with an expression of general acquiescence. Mr. Thompson's health has been so frail and the risks incidental to his chivalrous self-sacrifice in the public service have been so serious that any course which relieves him of a portion of his overwhelming duties is a matter of congratulation. Still the public have a right to something more than a Secretariat note on a matter of such vital importance as the Bengal Rent controversy, however able and experienced the Secretary concerned may be. For one thing the Lieutenant-Governor would think and write with more dispassionate impartiality than is possible in the case of a gentleman who is confessedly a partizan, using the word in no offensive sense, but merely as implying the frame of mind of the advocate rather than the judge. The Bengal Rent Bill has from its outset been, to a large extent, the work of partizans, and it is more than usually important that some high authority, commanding, as the Lieutenant-Governor would, the confidence and respect of all classes, should sum up the merits of the controversy so far as it has already gone.

For once the *Pi.* is honest. It candidly confesses that "the Bengal Rent Bill has from the outset been to a large extent the work of partisans," and it cannot be improved by a "partisan" like Mr. MacDonnell. As for Mr. Thompson he has changed wonderfully on the subject. When the Tenancy Bill was introduced into the Legislative Council in March 1883 he was by no means its uncompromising supporter. But since his removal to Darjeeling he has become an out-and-out adherent of it. To what occult influence is this change due it is not for us to say.

IT AFFORDS us much pleasure to observe that the Bengal Tenancy Bill is exciting attention in England. A controversy has arisen in the columns of the *Times*, and our veteran friend Mr. John Dacosta, than whom few retired Indians have studied the Indian land question more carefully and successfully, has communicated a powerful letter to the *Thunderer* on the

subject. Referring to Mr. Slagg's advocacy of a Standing Parliamentary Committee he writes :

The evil would seem to lie in the very absence of any deep interest, on the part of Parliament, in question of Indian administration, when these cannot be made to serve party purposes. For instance, the Bengal Tenancy Bill, a land law of a most comprehensive and revolutionary character, dealing with the rights of property, abolishing the freedom of contract, and generally affecting the interests of fifty millions of our fellow-subjects in the most flourishing of our Indian provinces was introduced in the Legislative Council of India upwards of thirteen months ago. The public mind in Bengal has been violently disturbed by the proposed legislation ; landed property has been seriously depreciated, public meetings have been held all over the country protesting against the measure, and memorials to the same effect have bean presented to the Viceroy, the Secretary of State, and to both Houses of Parliament. Yet no member appears to have felt sufficient interest in the subject even to call for the papers connected with the measure. Meanwhile, the most contradictory views are expressed regarding its scope and tendency, the supporters of the Bill stating that it is calculated to improve the position of the cultivators, while its opponents maintain that it would reduce the cultivators to a condition little removed from that of serfs.

Mr. Dacosta then continues :

The Bill, in accordance with official routine, was submitted for the opinions of the Chief Justice of Bengal and of the District Judges and Commissioners, who would have to administer the measure if it were passed into law, and these officers have condemned it as calculated—

To create a new class, of middlemen vested with the power of rack-renting their tenants the cultivators, and to deprive the cultivators of the soil from the protection they now receive from the law.

To set class, against class. to incite to litigation and to devices for eluding the law, and in the end greatly to injure the condition of both the land owners and the cultivators.

To involve a breach of public faith by violating the pledge solemnly given to the land owners of Bengal by the Government of India with the concurrence of the Crown and Parliament of Great Britain.

Mr. Dacosta justly remarks that it remains to be seen what action Parliament will take on this momentous question.

WE HAVE received the following for publication :

The Calcutta public are invited to a novelty,—a Yoga and Astrological Exhibition by Babu Tarini Prosad Neogi, at the Government Normal School, Chitpore Road. In the advertisement, which previously appeared in our columns, Babu Tarini Prosad described himself as "a Palmist and Clairvoyant," and he has since printed for circulation a number of testimonials from well-known citizens of Calcutta, among them Messrs B. L. Gupta, C. C. Dutt, N. N. Ghose, O. C. Dutt, Babus Narendro Nath Sen, Annup Chand Mitter, Mohini Mohun Dutt, Nemy Chunder Bose, Dr. Annoda Churn Khastgiri and others, all testifying to the possession by Babu Tarini Prosad of a certain degree of skill in palmistry. We have been informed that he has been consulted by very many intelligent and educated native gentlemen, as also by native ladies, and that even English gentlemen, and ladies have not thought it beneath them to call on him. Yoga and the Occult sciences have all along been held in high esteem by the people of this country, and it is no wonder, therefore, that Babu Tarini Prosad's Exhibition should attract the attention of the native public. We have been told that the monster Universal Horoscope and the pictorial representation of the Yogakasa, exhibited there, are well worth inspection.

OUR ATTENTION has been drawn to a case which came on for hearing so far back as the 12th March last before the learned second Judge of the Court of Small Causes of Calcutta. The facts of the case as disclosed by the witnesses and reported in the *Englishman* of the 18th idem were that—

One Aghore Nath Bannerjee, a conductor who sued the Tramway Company, worked up to the 19th October last and ceased to do so from the 20th idem, and subsequently resigned his appointment, in consequence of his having been fined, as he says unjustly for his apparent neglect to collect a transfer ticket from a passenger, who obstinately refused to deliver it to him; he was then suspended for two days, and ultimately desired to go to his work which he refused to do. The case then went to the Manager of the Company who thereupon recorded a certificate.

The Company's pleader denied the Courts' Jurisdiction and pleaded the Manager's certificate in bar of hearing the suit, and not indebted.

The plantiff demanded Rs. 15 being the amount of his deposit money and wages, Rs. 3-2 :

The Court held that it had jurisdiction. The real defence that the agreement was a bar to the suit was also held to fail as the agreement was not admissible in evidence it not being duly stamped, and the managers certificate, was considered valueless. Even admitting the agreement as evidence, the provision in the agreement that the Manager of the Company shall be the sole judge between the Company and the conductor, whether the former is entitled to retain the whole or any part of the deposit money of Rs. 15 and also all wages at the time of discharge as liquidated damages, cannot operate a bar to the suit. The same may be said of the other classes of the agreement which provides—

"And his certificate in writing that the same or any given part thereof stated in such certificate are to be so retained, and of the cause of such retention shall be binding and conclusive evidence between the parties in all Courts of Justice, Civil and Criminal and before all stipendiary, and Police Magistrates and Justices of the Peace, both that the amount thereby certified is the amount to be retained, as the true amount to be retained and has become and is so liable to be so retained by the Company, and that has happened which in such certificate is certified to be the cause, and that it is a lawful and sufficient cause for such retention, and such certificate shall bar the conductor of all rights under any circumstances to recover the money so certified to be retained, or any part thereof."

After some remarks on the arguments of the pleader for the defence the Court gave a judgment for the plaintiff.

We hear that there will be a new trial next Saturday, and we await the result of this trial with interest as it affects the vital interests of a numerous class of poor men, who have accepted service under the Tramways Company as conductors.

THE HINDUSTHANI residents of Barabazar, it has been brought to our notice, have presented at a public meeting a gold medal to a native doctor, for the services rendered by him in curing some difficult cases of cholera. The medal bears the following inscription :

Awarded to Dr. Preo Nath Mukerjee for successful treatment of Cholera cases by the residents of Burrabazzar, Calcutta, 4th May 1884.

HER GRACIOUS MAJESTY the Queen has issued the following feeling and generous address to Her subjects in England in recognition of the national sorrow and sympathy on the demise of the Duke of Albany :

"Windron Castle, 14th April 1884.

"I have on several previous occasions, given personal expression to my deep sense of the loving sympathy and loyalty of my subjects in all parts of my Empire. I wish, therefore, in my present grievous bereavement, to thank them most warmly for the very gratifying manner in which they have shown, not only their sympathy with me and my dear so deeply-afflicted daughter-in-law and my other children, but also their high appreciation of my beloved son's great qualities of head and heart, and of the loss he is to the country and to me.

"The affectionate sympathy of my loyal people, which has never failed me in weal or woe, is very soothing to my heart. Though much shaken and sorely afflicted by the many sorrows and trials which have fallen upon me during these past years, I will not lose courage, and with the help of Him who has never forsaken me, will strive to labor on, for the sake of my children, and for the good of the country I love so well, as long as I can.

"My dear daughter-in-law, the Duchess of Albany, who bears her terrible misfortune with the most admirable, touching, and unmurmurring resignation to the will of God, is also deeply gratified by the universal sympathy and kind feelings evinced towards her.

"I would wish, in conclusion, to express my gratitude to all other countries for their sympathy, above all to the neighbouring one, where my beloved son breathed his last, and for the great respect and kindness shown on that mournful occasion.

"Victoria R & I."

Darlington's Pain-Curer has been found to be a certain cure for Pains on the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Tightness of the Chest, Bronchitis, Diptheria, Headache, Toothache, Neuralgia, Colics, Rheumatism, Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Sciatica' Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Swellings, Old Sores, Ulcers' Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, Freckles, & Eruptions on the Skin. May be had retail or wholesale, direct from their establishment, 49, Dhurrumtollah Street, Calcutta, ☞ Examine the bottle, and see it has the Seal, Label, and Wrapper of Darlington & Co. ☜

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES.—Dr. Henry Hanks, author of "Consumption : Its Treatment and Curability," writes :—"The superior efficacy of Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil over the Pale Cod Liver Oil has proved, in my experience, unequivocal. Patients who have persisted for several months in the use of the latter, with scarcely any perceptible improvement, have, after a brief trial of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, acquired such fatness, and those distressing symptoms accompanying emaciation have so rapidly subsided, that I have been induced to confide in its reputed remedial powers, and consequently to advice its substitution for the Pale Cod Liver Oil." Benjamin Clarke, Esq., M. R. C. S., F. L. S., author of "Notes and Suggestions on Cod Liver Oil and its Uses," writes :—"The effect of the Pale Oil on the circulation is so feebly marked as not to be perceptible; so that in some cases of extreme debility, the patient, from the slowness of its action, is in danger of sinking from exhaustion, or the disease, as in consumption, may become incurable from protraction. My inference agrees with the remark that Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Oil effects a cure in half the time that the Pale Oil does." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, by all chemists, druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co, 77, Strand, London.

LOCAL.

BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

(Reproduced principally from the Statesman,)

THE thirty-second annual general meeting of the British Indian Association was held on Wednesday the 7th instant at 4-30 P.M., at the hall of the Association, with Dr. Rajendralala Mitra, the President, in the chair. The following gentlemen were present at the meeting :—Baboo Damoodur Das Burman, Nawab Mir Mahomed Ali, Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadoor, Baboos Kristo Gopal Ghose, Juggodish Nath Roy, Grish Chunder Ghose, Surendra Nath Pal Chowdry, Boikantha Natha Basu, Adhore Lal Sen, Bejoy Kristo Mookerjee, Peary Mohun Mookerjee, Joykisto Mookerjee, Charoo Chunder Mullick, Wodoy Chand Dutt, Komud Krishna Mitter, Jogendra Chunder Ghose, Okhil Chundra Mookerjee, Harjeebhoy Manackjee Rustomjee, Esq., Baboo Gopal Chandra Gupta, Kumar Denendra Narain Roy, Baboo Kissory Mohun Gossain, Rai Buddree Das Mukim Bahadoor, Babu Grish Chunder Das Rai Bahadoor, Baboo Roma Nath Ghose, and others.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The SECRETARY (the Hon'ble Kristodas Pal, Rai Bahadoor) opened the proceedings by giving a summary of the Committee's report. The first subject which had engaged the Committee's attention, during the past year, was the Criminal Jurisdiction Bill, as to the result of which everybody was familiar. The next Bill which had engaged the Committee's attention was the Agricultural Loans Bill, against which the Committee had protested, and which had been practically abandoned. Then came the Excise Act Amendment Bill, which had received the assent of his Excellency the Viceroy, but he was glad to be able to state that date-juice had been exempted from licenses a result which the Committee had exerted for. The Port Trust Act Amendment Bill and the Hill Coolies' Bill had also received the attention of the Committee. Though both these Acts had become law, he believed that the Secretary of State did not fully approve of the latter Bill as it had been passed. Then, as regards the Mofussil Municipalities Act Amendment Bill, most of the recommendations of the Committee had, he was glad to say, received attention. The Bengal Tenancy Bill, and the reception of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, were also matters which had engaged the attention of the Committee, who had also tendered assistance to the Committee of the Calcutta International Exhibition. In conclusion, the Committee regretted sincerely to record the death of one of their best and foremost friends and colleagues, the late Baboo Peary Chand Mittra, to commemorate whose memory the Committee had already taken separate steps. The Secretary also laid on the table an abstract of the accounts for the past year.

Baboo Wodoy Chand Dutt proposed, and Baboo Kristo Gopal Ghose seconded, that the report and accounts be approved and adopted.

Dr. Rajendralala Mitra said :—Gentlemen, before putting this resolution to the vote I deem it necessary to give you a brief summary of the operations of this Association during the past year. This is the more necessary as, owing to the illness of my friend to my right, he has been obliged to give you only a summary of the report, instead of reading the whole of it. It would have been a cruelty to have asked him to read the whole of it. It is so long. But it is full and, I dare say, those of you who have read it will be perfectly satisfied that the congratulation with which it opens, is well justified. I entirely concur in the opinion of your Committee of management, that this is an occasion when your Committee may fairly congratulate you upon the success which has attended the operations of this Association. Thirty-two long years have elapsed since the establishment of this

Association, and I have been connected with it nearly the whole time, with the exception perhaps of two months or three. I am therefore in a position to say that the institution was never in a more flourishing situation than it is now. Your list of members in extending steadily and satisfactorily; your financial accounts shows a handsome saving, a funded balance of Rs. 19,500. You have a good rental from the godowns and other possessions, and now possess this handsome and commodious house. In so far, the material prosperity of the institution continues steady. Nor has its inactivity waved in any respect. Your Committee have been steady at their work, and as in 1852 when we first commenced operations, so in 1883, they have done as much work as you had occasion to undertake. The only thing about which I have to mourn on the present occasion is the loss of two very valuable members. The first was the foremost—one of the most accomplished members, one of the two or three that we had lately living of our foundation members. We have lost in him a most valuable co-adjutor, who had done good service to the Association for a very long time. I allude to the late Babu Peary Chand Mittra. He and his brother the late Kissory Chand Mitter, were most ardeous in every undertaking which came before the Association, and all our early representations papers, reports and proceedings bear the stamp of their intellectual powers. To me the loss is severe, because both these individuals I looked upon as old and intimate personal friends, and many of you, at least some of you, I am sure, who have had the pleasure of walking with Babu Peary Chand Mittra, will bear me out that you cannot have a more hearty, good natured and ardent gentleman who was ever foremost in every good undertaking (Applause.) It would be long before we shall be able to replace so valuable a co-adjutor. I am glad to state that a few months ago this Association took the lead in holding a meeting to adopt means to perpetuate the memory of Peary Chand Mittra. A subscription has been opened, and a fair sum has been subscribed, and I hope before long to have the pleasure of seeing the benign countenance of my oldfriend put up in marble in some of our public institutions.

The other individual for whom I have had to mourn was the late Raja Pramathanath Roy of Dighapatty. I have had the pleasure of rearing him up from his boyhood. He was a ward of mine for upwards of eight years, and I always looked upon him with paternal affection. It was most gratifying to me that upon attaining his manhood he bore out in every detail the anticipations I had formed of his becoming one of the leaders of native society (Applause). His ardent love for the improvement for the amlioration of the condition of the people of this country, and for their intellectual advancement, was unceasing, and he erected a noble monument of his goodness by contributing a lac and a half of rupees to the Rajshahye College. He was for some time a member of the Bengal Council, and in every movement for the good of the country that we had in Calcutta he was in some way or other associated. In referring to his loss I feel again that I have lost one in whom I had centred a great deal of my affection.

To turn now to the work done by your Committee. I shall not take up your time by going through all the details of this report, but there are items which I cannot allow to pass by without remark. The first subject in this report is the Jurisdiction Bill—the notorious Ilbert Bill. I call it notorious, because it has since become notorious. It was concieved in the best of spirits, and the stamp of the highest statesmanship was imprinted on the Bill. Nothing can be nobler than the idea which dictated it. The nobleman at the head of the Government tried to do away with race distinctions in matters of law. He was in a manner going to follow in the footsteps of that nobleman, Lord Bentinck, whose memory will live ever fresh in our minds, who when in 1835 he first granted the natives civil jurisdiction over Europeans. It was he who inaugurated the measure, and the law was passed shortly after he left the country. That measure was the first "Black Act" as some of our fellow citizens thought proper to stigmatize it. It met with the most violent opposition; but the men at the head of the Government on that occasion were Lord-Bentinck, Mr. Macaulay, Sir Charles Trevelyan and others who were true to the real interests of the British Government in this country, and true to Humanity. They passed the law by which the jurisdiction of Native Munsiffs, Sadar Amins, and principal Sadar Amins was extended to cases connected with Her Majesty's British born subjects in this country. Since then several attempts were made to advance in that direction by extending the criminal jurisdiction of native officers over British born subjects. The first attempt was made by the late lamented friend of the country, Mr. Bethune, an it was upon that occasion that my late friend Ramgopal Ghose whose portrait graces the wall before me, was assailed with the most violent and illiberal vituperation for the action he took in advocating that Bill. He was blackballed from the Agricultural Society for his temerity upon the occasion. The next attempt was made in 1855-56 but it bore no fruit. The next attempt was made in 1860-61 and that law was so framed that it would cover the jurisdiction, but in a very awkward and imperfect manner. The question really came in for discussion in 1872 when the Criminal Procedure Code was revised, and a compromise was come to giving jurisdiction to Muffusil European Officers over born British subjects, but denying it to Native Officers. It was with a view to remove the last shortcoming that the Ilbert Bill was brought forward. It was very cautiously worded as you all know, and it was left entirely to the discretion of the Local Government to extend the powers to such tried officers as it thought proper, and only made it imperative in the case of Judges and Magistrates. You are all familiar with what transpired last year on the subject, nor are you less acquainted with the utter collapse which took place at the beginning of this year when the Bill was passed; and it is with reference to what then transpired that I call the Bill notorious. It has done nothing of what it contemplated to do. The power which was left to the Local Government to invest distinguished native officers with the Criminal Jurisdiction has been done away with. The power which existed for a long time in District Magistraties and Justices of the Peace to try British born subjects has been taken away—virtually taken away though not nominally. They were able then to try European subjects under the ordinary law, but they cannot do so now. The native officers can only try those who do not take exception to their jurisdiction on the ground of race privilege, the clause of not taking exception has been is full force since 1872 so that nothing has been gained. It was only the other day that I heard of a case at Cuttack in which a European charged with the heinous crime of rape did not care to claim his race privilege and was tried by a native Deputy Magistrate, under section 3 of the new Act the purport of which perhaps I do not clearly grasp, the case would have been different. In the case of Sessions Judges you have only obtained one advantage, and that is the Sessions Court Judge, whether European or Native, may try Europe can subjects, but then these cases must always be tried with the aid of a jury. Formerly European Judges in non jury districts tried too such cases without a jury and so far there has been a deduction on that account and not a gain. Consequently the Bill has proved an absolute failure giving you nothing except abuse maintained for a whole year. But abuse does not break bones and I do not mind it. I am only sorry that the reopening of the question has been delayed *sine die*. It will be a very strong Government indeed which will be able hereafter to come forward and re-open the case You must mourn this the more deeply as the Bill has been passed under the administration of a nobleman who has endeared himself with the whole native community, by his liberal sentiments and earnest desire to ameliorate the condition of the people of this country.

The next Bill introduced was the Agricultural Loan Bill. I do not intend to take up much of your time by dwelling on it. The main objection I have to the Bill is that it is of a most arbitrary, unjust impractical character. It defies every principle of sound political economy. I really do not know that any Government however powerful, can regulate the value of money. Money has a law of its own and will override the most powerful Governments. There was a time when a Chinese Emperor, (and a more autocratic individual never lived on the face of the Earth) issued paper banknotes stamped with a law declaring that whoever objected to recieve them as cash must have his head cut-off and many luckless heads fell under that law, but for all that the autocrat failed to get his notes into circulation. Another equally powerful Sovereign, one of India, was Ferokshah, and he thought of leather banknotes. He ordered the issue of these notes, and he failed as ignobly as the autocrat of China. Such being the case is it possible for the liberal, law-abiding Government of the country to regulate the loan of money at fixed interest? It is simply impossible. The Government can only do what an autocrat can do, that is force money from some persons and give it to others. The Government can tax the country at large for the benefit of the agriculturists. The project is that bonds for loans for agricultural purposes from Government and certain selected banks and private persons shall have the benefit of reduced stamp duty, reduced law charges and low interests. Well, all this may be good. But what will be the result of that? The stamp revenue must fail, the Registry revenue must fail, other sources, of revenue must fail, and the Government will have to tax the people anew to provide for the losses it would sustain by helping the agriculturalist. Well the agriculturlist benefits, but is not he as a member of society, as much liable to heavy taxation as any other section of the community? I know for certain, and you know it too, that two Lieutenant-Governors of the most earnest sympathy for the poor of this country, dwelt on the necessity of doing everything possible for the good of the ryot, and how did they end? They consummated their good will for the poor by levying two new taxes on those people. I have no faith in public good resulting from loans to particular, section of the community from the public purse with special privileges the cost of which must recoil on the public; but I have a lively impression of coming general taxes on that account. In one word the idea is comunistic and cannot be carried out in regard to one section of the community without doing general harm. Sympathy for the poor is good enough but why should the poor artizan be taxed for the benefit of the agriculturist?

The next subject is the Excise Amendment Bill. It calls for no remark. It is a measure of a very small character about *khajur ros* and I do not care whether it is taxed or not though I pity the poor men who are deprived of the luxury of having a cooling refreshing drink at a small cost.

The next is the Port Trust Amendment Act. This is one of those laws which people in this country will have to complain of from time to time under the peculiar constitution of our Government. A solemn pledge was given by Lord Dalhousie that the Strand Bank land would bekept for the health and recreation of the people. Influenced by a powerful corporation our present Government interprets "health and recreation" to mean large three-storied godown blocking up the ventilation of the town. I do not know if there was a shadow of a shade of a sarcastic smiles on the corner of mouths of the men who told us it was for the health and the recreation of the people of the town that these houses and godown have been built.

The Hill Coolie Bill is the next, and I have only these words to say to this subject. It was designed on the principle of holding the people of this country to be children all their lives. No Hill porter was to be allowed to exercise his calling, except with the voucher of a badge from the Magistrate of the district, or what was the samething, the Municipal Commissioners of the district; and if by chance any of you happened to go to Darjeeling, and got out of the train and asked a wayfarer to take your carpet bag in his hand, and that wayfarer happened to be unlicensed, that individual would rue the day by being sent to one of Her Majesty's jail for six months. No man is to be permitted to sell his own labor except with the license of Her Majesty and the price of that labour is to be regulated by the employer of labor and not the laborer. The Bill was modified to some extent, but as far as Darjeeling and Kursciong are concerned it is in full force

The Mofusil Municipality Bill has not yet I believe received the assent of the Governor General. (The Secretary, 'it has") Oh, it has. Well it is the first outcome in this country or province of the famous Self-Government Minute. I had occasion to read the Bill carefully, and I can tell you that either owing to my advancing age or dull intellectual capacity, I could not percieve tittle of "self" in it, unless it be selfishness on the part of these individuals who will have the working of it. The most annoying part to that Bill was the discussion which took place in the Bengal Council. The proposition was that certain classes of subjects should pay a tax of 7½ per cent. a year for Municipal purposes. An Amendment was then brought up saying that rate was very proper when it concerned the huts of poor men, but when it concerned jute mills and manufactories and uncommonly large houses owned by Europeans, it would prove a great hardship; and the resolution come to is that the richer the man the less he has to pay for Municipal purposes. (Applaus-) It was a painful thing to notice that all the European members of the Legislature voted for this infamous clause of the Municipalities Act.

The next and the only other measure I wish to notice just now is the Tenancy Bill. You know all about its details, and I shall not traverse the well known ground. I look upon it as another exemplification of what I have been telling you about the eternal infancy of the native population of this country. I do not see that any body has put it in that form, but the main principle whether admitted or not, of that Bill appears to be that 55 out of the 60 million population of the country should be declared unfit to enter into any engagement connected with law. I say 55 millions because that is the estimate of the Famine Commission regarding the population connected with land. These 55 millions of men are to be declared incapable of entering into any contracts. No one can enter into any contracts without the Government or whoever represents it, the District Collector or any other official. You are told that enhancement of rent should not exceed 25 or 20 per cent. and so on, but upon what principle our legislators and law-makers think that the relation between produce and rent should not exceed 20 per cent. I cannot understand. There is no argument, nothing to show it, except it is the wish of the Bengal Government. Why was it not said that it should be 10 or even 5 per cent.? Possibly we ought to be thankful that the Bengal Government has not thought fit to fix the limit at 5 per cent. But the drift of the whole thing is not to fix ratio at 20 per cent. but to put every obstacle in the way of contracts between man and man. No contract shall be allowed. The land shall be declared the property not of the zemindar to whom Lord Cornwallis gave it, not of those who have wound it for centuries before, but of the squatter who may happen at any moment to construct a wigwam over it. Once a squatter has put up a wigwam he is the resident ryot, and he is the owner of the soil, and the zemindar and his ancestors, men who have been kings in Bengal a thousand years ago, who happen to hold the land is only a rent-collector. He is liable to all sorts of pains and penalties and he has no power or right in the land. If Herbert Spencer think that certain rules made in England for compulsory education for the poor are sowing slavery in England, what should be the case when we have at one scoop, declared 55 millions incapable of taking care of themselves? Are they or are they not to have liberty to act and judge for themselves, to think for themselves? It may be all very well to talk of freesale, what will be the consequence? The consequence will be as certain as the sun will rise that the land will pass away from these privileged ryots and fall into the hands of money lenders and capitalists. The Government knows this perfectly well. The framer of the Bill himself declared that in time the ryot will have no legal protection whatever from this Bill. But there is salvation for you as there was balm in Gilliad. He said that when that contingency should arrive he may return from England and frame another Bill to help the people out of their difficulties, Are we to rest satisfied with that prospect? Are we to allow such a law to be passed and see the whole country reduced to abject slavery because certain doctrinaires in their allegiance to the Irish land Act desire to do the same thing in India what has been done in Ireland? It is nothing more than a desire to see spread wide in Bengal rank communitic theories. There is no objection in itself pure and simple, but I do object to see any member of the community reduced to mere infants in the lands of the Government, and that being so is there any reason to suppose that the Government will not hereafter think proper for a particular purpose, to raise a tax from the poor ryots who reaps the benefit in one way by being relieved from the so-called oppression of the murderous zemindars and placed at the tender mercy of the tax collector. The people say, Government has always said that the Permanent Settlement should be broken through, and that when it is broken through that they will have more liberty and freedom in raising taxes and making, what is called in the jargon of the day, the revenue more "elastic." It is in order to secure the elasticity of the revenue that the Bill has been framed. And though I cannot readily give my assent to such an idea, I do not wish to convey such an insinuation. I feel convinced and am morally certain that it would be rank insult to the nobleman at the head of Government to suppose that he could be actuated by such a motive. His motive is unquestionably pure and most benevolent, but I deem it my duty to point out what the impression of the motives is on the subject.

I shall not take up any more time. I think I have said enough to show that your Committee have done their utmost to protect your rights, I shall now retire from the chair on which you did me the honor to place me this time last year. My honorable friend to my left who will succeed me will with his knowledge of business and worldly wisdom, I have no doubt enable the Association to proceed as satisfactorily hereafter as has been done heretofore. With these remarks I shall now put the resolution &c,

Baboo Bejoykissen Mookerjee proposed, and Baboo Komud Kissen Mitter seconded, that the best thanks of the Association be tendered to the retiring President, Vice-Presidents and Committee for the untiring zeal and devotedness with which they had performed their duties during the past year.

The resolution was put, and carried with applause.

NEW MEMBERS.

The meeting then confirmed the election of the following gentlemen as members of the Association:—

Baboo Dwarka Nath Mookerjee Rai Bahadoor, zeminder, Kidderpere, —proposed by Baboo Joykissen Mookerjee, seconded by Maharaja Narendra Krishna, Bahadoor; Baboo Nilcomul Mitter, merchant and landholder, Calcutta and Allahabad,—proposed by Baboo Juggodishnath Roy, seconded by uaboo Joodulal Mullick; Hon'ble Chunder Madhub Ghose, —proposed by Maharaja Sir Jotendra Mohun Tagore Bahadoor, K. C. S. I., seconded by Baboo Jogendra Chundra Ghosh: Maharaj Koomar Ramessur Sing Bahadoor, C. S., Durbhungha,—proposed by Maharaja Sir Jotendra Mohun Tagore Bahadoor, K. C. S. I., seconded by Dr. Rajendralala Mitra, Rai Bahadoor, L L. D., C. I. E.; Roy Bunwarilal

Bahadoor, Durbhunghn,zemindar Durbhungha,—proposed by Maharaja Sir Jotendra Mohun Tagore Bahadoor, K. C. S. I., seconded by Baboo Saligram Sing; Mr. Fani Bhusan Chatterjee, Barrister-at-law, —proposed by Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohun Tagore Bahadoor, K. C. S. I., seconded by Baboo Peary Mohun Mookerjee, ; Baboo Kumudkissen Mitter, zemindar, Calcutta ,—proposed by Baboo Jodoolal Mullick, seconded by Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadoor; Baboo Dwarka Nath Chuckerbuty, zemindar and pleader, Beerbhoom, —proposed by Baboo Peary Mohun Mookerjee, seconded by Baboo Jogendra Chundra Ghose.

The name of the under-mentioned gentleman was proposed for election :

Baboo Bhoggobutty Prosunno Roy zemindar, Bally.—Proposed by Baboo Peary Mohun Mookerjee seconded by Baboo Grish Chundra Ghose.

OFFICE-BEARERS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR.

Babu Adhore Lal Sen proposed, and Babu Damoodar Das Burman seconded, that the following gentlemen be elected the Office-bearers for the current year :—

President—Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadoor.

Vice-President—Dr. Rajendralala Mitra, Rai Bahadoor, L. L. D., C. I. E.. H. H. the Hon'ble Maharaja Luchmessur Singh Bahadoor of Durbhungah, Babu Joykissen Mookerjee. and Babu Doorga Churn Law.

Committee—Maharaja Sir Jotteendra Mohun Tagore Bahadoor, K. C. S. I., H. H. Maharaja Kristo Protap Sahai of Hutwah, Raja Harendra Krishna Bahadoor, Raja Suttyanund Ghosal Bahadoor, Kumar Debendra Mullick, Babu Jodoolal Mullick, Babu Gobindlal Seal, Babu Dinonath Mullick, Babu Chunder Kant Mookerjee, Babu Grish Chunder Ghose, Babu Pearymohun Mookerjee, Raja Poorna Chundra Singh, Nawab Mir Mahomed Ali, Babu Norendra Nath Sen, Hurjeebhoy Manackjee Rustomjee, Esq., Babu Obhoy Churn Guho, Babu Shama Churn Law, Babu Jogendra Chunder Ghose, Babu Gurudas Bannerjee, D. L, Babu Kalinath Mitter, Babu Sreenath Chundra, Babu Surendra Nath Pal Chowdhry, Babu Boikanthnath Basu, Babu Kaliprosunno Ghose, Babu Joggodishnath Roy, Babu Saligram Singh, Molvie Mahomed Yusuf, Kumar Sarat Chundra Singh, Babu Saradendra Mohun Tagore, Hon'ble Harbans Sahai, Hon'ble Chunder Madhuo Ghose, Babu Dwarkanath Chuckerbutty, Babu Charoo Chuner Mullick, and Hon'ble Kristodas Pal, Rai Bahadoor, C. I. E., Secretary.

The resolution, on being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously.

The Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadoor, who now took the chair, spoke as follows :—Gentlemen,—From the annual report which we have just heard read byour able Secretary, it will be seen that among other matters of public interest considered last year by the Association it gives a fair history of the Bengal Tenancy Bill. As this Bill has been exhaustively discussed both here and in England, any lengthy remarks on it by mewill, I think, be quite out of place, I shall therefore merely glance at one or two of the principal objections to which it is most open. I am sure that no case whatever for legislative interference, to the extent contemplated by it, has been made out, and to persist in passing it in face of the hard logic of facts and figures which unmistakably disprove the necessity of a measure of a revolutionary character, seems to be a most objectionable course to pursue. (Applause.) We asked Government to afford us increased facilities for realising our rents from our ryots, and the Government, in its supreme wisdom, answers our appeal by attempting to thrust upon us this obnoxious Bill, which in fact not only aims to deprive us of our rights, but also to fearfully unsettle the hitherto amicable relations between us and our ryots, which took years to form and consolidate and which are now to be so ruthlessly dissolved, without any just cause, at a moment's notice. It is not worthy of credence that the establishment of 'fixity of tenure' throughout the country could be claimed as a reason in support of it, for statistics carefully collected by our Association go to prove the other way. These show that the ryots are already perfectly secured in the enjoyment of their possessions, and are subject only to the payments of rents agreed upon between them and the zemindars. They also clearly prove that landlords seldom, if ever, abused their power of ejectment. So the argument based upon this 'fixity' principle, flimsy as it would appear at the very first blush, falls to the ground. The right of free sale of tenures is already recognised by the zemindars where the custom of the country allows it, and in other parts though the ryots cannot claim it as privilege, the zemindars scarcely refuse to accord their sanction to such transfers when the ryots get them recorded in their *sherishtah*. I believe the practice of levying small fees on such occasions cannot be reasonably objected to. There are other points, such as occupancy rights table of rates, maximum rents, &c., on which having dwelt at some length elsewhere, and more or less at other meetings held some time ago to consider the provisions of the Bill, I would not inflict a needless repetition of my views regarding them at this meeting. It is with a heavy heart I observe that my friend, Dr. Rajendralala Mitra, vacates the Presidentship, by rotation, this year. His services to the Association have been conspicuous. They are so patent and widely appreciated by us that they need no words of commendation from me. I thank you, gentlemen, for electing me President of your Association. (Loud applause.)

Babu Joykissen Mookerjee then addressed the meeting as follows :—Gentlemen,—The Bengal Tenancy Bill, as revised by the Select Committee to which it was referred has been made public, but it appears to me that the scant consideration which the Bill has received at their hands is not the least prominent among the numerous untoward and inexplicable circumstances which mark the origin and progress of this unfortunate measure. No inquiry was made into local conditions and circumstances ; no witnesses, excepting some in an informal way, were examined in regard to the various questions which could not be determined otherwise than on an examination of evidence, and no measures were taken to collect a body of statistics on points on which the information received by them were conflicting. They themselves admit that "there are various points on which we consider that further information is requisite ;" and yet they have not hesitated to submit in hot haste their proposals for the amendment of a measure which would materially affect the social economy and the vested rights of a vast community, and which, as such, should have received at their hands the fullest consideration. And the result is that we have now before us a much worse Bill than what was introduced into Council in March 1883. The provisions relating to the acquisition of the right of occupancy and the incidents of that right were bad enough, and to those the Select Committee have added a section creating a reputable presumption of occupancy right in every case. thus throwing the whole *onus* of proof on the landholder. They have vastly enlarged the sphere of restriction to freedom of contract. They have omitted the provision regarding forfeiture of tenant rights on a disclaimer of the landlord's title, and have thus not only held out a premium to false pleas, but have also deprived landholders of an equitable relief which on everyconsidertion, they are entitled to. In spite of official testimony to the fact that the presumption of fixity of rent has deprived landholders of their just dues in regard to innumerable holdings which did not exist at the time of the Permanent Settlement, the Select Committee have only retained that provision, but have rendered it worse by extending it to cases in which produce-rent has been or shall be commuted to money-rent. The provisions of the Amended Bill regarding the sale of occupancy rights and subletting by occupancy ryots would take away most valuable rights from landholders, and would, at the same time, reduce the ryots to the position of labourers in the interests of a class of men who possess no rights whatever at present, nor are on any equitable ground entitled to any. The number of new restrictions that have been suggested in regard to enhancement of rent, either out of court or by suit in court, would not only stop all enhancement of rent, but would also curtail, to a material extent, the right to enhancement which landlords at present, at least in theory, enjoy. The provisions relating to distraint amount virtually to an abolition of the process, while no proposals whatever have been made for giving landholders any facilities for recovering admitted rents. It was feared that the whole tendency of the original Bill was to set landholders and ryots by the ears without doing good to anybody except the licensed and unlicensed practitioners of law. I have no doubt that the tendency of the Amended Bill in that direction would be worse. The ability and fearlessness with which the Hon'ble Rai Kristodas Pal has criticised the main provisions of the Amended Bill in his dissent leave little room for further comment. There is no doubt that that dissent and the admirable dissent of the Hon'ble Maharaja of Durbhungah will receive due attention at the hands of the Secretary of State and his Council, but I would move that the Sub-Committee of the Central Committee of Landholders be requested to direct their attention to the Amended Tenancy Bill, with a view to further and continued agitation on the subject. (Loud applause.)

Rai Grish Chunder Dass, Bahadoor, seconded the motion, which was put and carried unanimously.

NATIVE CANDIDATES FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Baboo Peary Mohun Mookerjee said that it was now seven years since the Associanion first raised their voice against the order for the reduction of the age of natives of India for the competitive examination in England. What they had then predicted had come to pass, for since the passing of that order no native had passed into the Civil Service. He thought that it was injustice enough to the natives of India to hold the examination in England, and he was of opinion that they should earnestly move for the restoration of the previous limit of age. Without meaning in any way to offend the gentlemen who had waited in deputation on Lord Kimberley, he thought that if they proceeded in the regular way, and through the proper channel, they might hope for better results than what had been telegraphed to them within the last few days. He thought that a memorial should be submitted through the proper channel, representing their grievances in this respect; and if they could have the good fortune to secure the support of the Government out here, they would have a fair chance of success. He would therefore move that measures be taken for submitting a memorial on the question of the limit of age for the Civil Service examination.

Baboo Jogendro Chunder Ghose seconded the motion, which was put, and carried with applause.

With the usual vote of thanks to the chair, the meeting separated.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Rs.	As.	P.
Mhomed Wuheeddoodin, Dinagepore.....	10	0	0
H. Rivett Carnac Esq., Gazeepore.....	13	4	0
Babu Soorji Coomar Sen, Jehanabad.....	8	0	0
,, Mohesh Chunder Bannerjee, Bancoorah...	10	0	0
,, Brindabone Chunder Pal, Tazpore.....	6	10	0
,, Abdas Sobhan Chowdry, Seekeedah.....	14	5	0
,, Issen Chunder Biswas, Bhaugulpore.....	6	10	0
,, Nogendra Nath Bannerjee, Arrah.....	5	0	0
,, Soseekumar Dutt, Mymensingh, ...	5	0	0
,, Mohim Chunder Rysak, Nattore.....	6	10	0
,, Koonjolal Mukerjee, Jessore.....	13	4	0
,, Hurrendra Coomar Chowdry, Sherpore...	13	8	0
,, Kylash Chunder Dutt, Tipperah.....	13	4	0
,, Dhorony Dhur Bannerjee, Rawalpindi...	13	4	0
,, Kally Churn Bannerjee, Sutna.....	2	10	0
,, Ombicca Churn Sircar, Jessore.....	10	0	0
,, Nursing Chunder Mookerjee, Nagpore...	13	4	0
,, Annodapersad Ghose, Hooghly.....	13	4	0
,, Kadar Nath Gooin, Bankipore.....	10	0	0

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

My son, Hurro Chunder Pal, a youth of about 16 years of age, has left home and gone where I do not know. He has in his company two other youths of about the same age, name of one them is Shyam Lal Dhur. My son Hurro Chunder Pal is of short stature, dark complexion and slender make and is short sighted. Any person coming across them will do the undersigned great favor by sending him information regarding their whereabouts.

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Calcutta, 1st May 1884. } H. W. I. WOOD, Secretary.

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শ্রীমতী থাকমণি রায় ঘোষ।

কর্ণওয়ালিস ষ্ট্রীট ২১০/১ নং বাটী হইতে ঠনঠনিয়ার চৌরাস্তার কিঞ্চিৎ দক্ষিণ কলেজ ফাষ্টলেন ৭ নং বাটীতে উঠিয়া গিয়াছেন।

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The 18th April 1884.—Offers from a private firm to maintain a steam transport service between Chandbally and Cuttack having been received, notice is hereby given that the Government steamer and boats will cease to ply on the Kendrapara Canal from June next, when that Canal is reopened for traffic. No special concession will be given to any firm or company, and the public are invited to place steamers and boats on the line.

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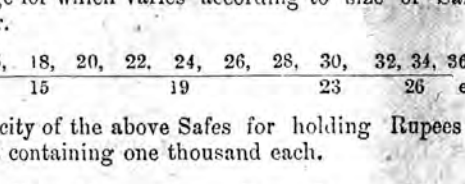

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ধাত্রী।

শ্রীমতী জগৎলক্ষ্মী ঘোষ

বাহির সিমলা, ২১০।১ কর্ণওয়ালিশ ষ্ট্রীট,

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Directions for using this medicine accompany each bottle in nine languages.

Since the introduction of this celebrated medicine, various preparations and imitations have come into the market When ordering for Darlington's Pain-Curer, insist on your being supplied with what you want, for an unprincipled vendor will try to foist on you a worthless preparation which is likely to leave him a better profit.

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30	68	8	0	51	10	0	44	0	0	30
35	73	8	0	56	0	0	47	12	0	35
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